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New Bedford in 1827
as told in
Samuel Rodman's Diary

Edited by Bradford Swan

Reynolds Printing

1935

The Rodman House Age 100 Years

Old House, if but your walls could speak
And bring back pictures of the Past
The scenes whose life we now would seek
To paint again in colors fast!

The lives which made this home a place
Of love, high thoughts and simple needs;
These scorned to walk at the world's pace
Nor sought for Fortune's easy meeds.

The noble soul who builded here
"Ever in his taskmaster's eye"
Lived faithful, serving God with fear,
And serving fellow man thereby

The dear companion of his years,
Cherished with tenderness supreme;
For her nor time nor burden sears
The perfect bond that was youth's dream.

She brought the grace that made these rooms
Fair-furnished, filled with culture's store;
From her rich mind flower'd the fine blooms
Which fadeless, wither nevermore.

Six children lived to bless their day
Three stalwart sons and daughters three;
Mary, death called in youth away
Fair and loved, sore wept was she.

And of the sons, one tall and spare
And straight as poplar—without fear
Served well his Land in bloody war,
And lived a patriot-scholar here.

The youngest maid was born and wed
In this old House, the only one;
And fair she was—they always said—
Simple her Bridal, lovelier none.

It was a home where noble lives
Kept simple standards—Thoughtful care
And kindly hospitalities
Brought many here to bless and share.

And now we're gathered here to-night,
In thankful memory of the past,
To speak our love for her whose light
Burns brightly here and binds us fast.

Written by a descendant of the family for the 100th
anniversary of the birthday of the house.

Samuel Rodman Diary of 1827

Edited by Bradford Fuller Swan

Reprinted from The Morning Mercury, 1934

FOREWORD

Several weeks ago Miss Julia Rodman telephoned The Mercury to say that the missing volume of the dairy kept by her grandfather, Samuel Rodman, Jr., had come to light. Having printed the other volumes of the dairy in The Mercury in 1927, we were very anxious to complete the work and publish this one. I asked for the task and was given it. It has turned out to be not a task but a pleasant experience.

This "missing" volume covers some eight or nine months of the year 1827, the year in which Samuel Rodman was building and moving into his new house at the southeast corner of County and Spring streets. Shedding light as it does on one of New Bedford's famous houses and the life that went on within its walls, carrying on the story of one of New Bedford's most illustrious men, and above all giving us, in these parlous times, an insight into life as it was lived in another and undoubtedly more peaceful day, its historical value is inestimable.

Mr. Rodman wrote his diary with noteworthy perserverance. Seldom did he miss a day, and even when he did it was made up later and honestly mentioned as a late addition. He wrote in an abbreviated form. The question of adhering closely to the abbreviations as the text stands has been much debated by me. I have come to the conclusion to let these abbreviations stand, partly because they give a novel air to the work and mark it as of a different period, and partly because they are so characteristic that it would be somewhat presumptuous not to leave things as I have found them. Thus very few changes have been made and only in the case of obvious errors of the hand and not of the mind. These are all marked as such. Where, because of illegibility I have been forced to guess at the context, I have so noted.

To explain a few of the abbreviations. Where P. M. occurs it means "afternoon" and never night or evening. "Evg." with or without the period is "evenings." "O'clk" is carried almost always abbreviated. Names are often in shortened form

but they are self explanatory. In the case of "Cg. house" the meaning is "counting house", the office of that day. Where "mtg." occurs it is used for "meeting". In some instances it has been abbreviated as "mg." but I have inserted a "t" to avoid confusion with the abbreviation for "morning". There are other shortened forms but their meaning is generally clear and they occur rarely.

Throughout the diary are references to "Ma Chere", "Ma Chere H.", "My H.", etc. These all refer to the annalist's wife, Hannah.

The decision has been reached to carry the entries in full, with the exception of some personal references. We have decided on this because on this occasion we have space. At the previous publication some 35 years were covered and limitations of space demanded the deletions.

I am glad we have been able to do this because to read the everyday entries is as valuable as any lesson the diary has for the readers. When the entries seem humdrum or all the same, the lesson they teach is simply that the days went by in that fashion and men in the age were content to pass them that way. To delete all except exciting or interesting parts would be to falsify the record and spoil the entire picture.

Thus we come to the book, the diary. Perhaps I have overstepped in my introduction already. The book stands for itself; and we shall let it.

BRADFORD F. SWAN

The Diary

Boston 3rd M. 28th. 1827. Being at a book auction this evg. I bought this book to keep my notes in during my absence from home, &c. I left home early yesterday at ½ past 6 a. m. in the stage—route through Bridgewater—breakfasted at Haskell's in Middleborough and dined at E. Bridgewater. Arrived here at ½ past 5 and took lodgings at the Exge. Coffee House. Took a walk after tea & retired early. Rose early this morning, took a walk before breakfast, after called at C. Coolidge's office and found him out.

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Then went to the State Prison and engaged my stones for my steps & front walls. Spent most of the afternoon with C. Coolidge looking at marble fireplaces, soap-stones &c.—prices for steps 58c wall 52c—marbles 85, full columns elegant, pilasters elegant 60—good for chambers 37½ passable 27½, all with hearths—soap-stones handsome for chambers \$25.

5th Day 29th. Was called about 4 o'clk to take the stage for Providence to meet the Steam Boat for New York. Was subjected to a little inconvenience at starting from not being able to find my boots in the collection at the Coffee House. As it was too early to get another pair I was obliged to ride in slippers to Dedham where on stopping for breakfast I got my shoes from my trunk and did very well afterward. Reached the steam boat wharf in Providence about 11 o'clk. Started at 12. Jas. Arnold & his daughter and about 30 or 40 others came on board. Had a fair run down the river in about 2½ hours. Stopped a few minutes at Newport and landed some passengers and took onboard others, among the latter C. W. Morgan and Seth Russell from our plant (?) by whom I heard from my family. Had a fine run through the night, and reached Hell Gate about ½ past 8 or 9 o'clk. But meeting the tide then ahead it was 11 o'clk before we arrived at the city. The water was unusually smooth and our passengers all agreeable and I was well pleased with the boat accommodations and the Captain, Comstock, with whom I was previously unacquainted except by reputation. He impressed me favorably in confirmation of the character which I had learned of him, attentive, skilful and gentlemanly. On leaving the boat, as I rushed to go to my father-in-law E. Prior's at Manhattanville, I did not accompany my friends J. & E. Arnold & C. W. Morgan who went to the Bankers' at the foot of Broadway. I attempted to get lodgings at the Franklin House but not succeeding I sent my baggage by the Manhattanville stage and followed in the evg with my bro in law John Barrow Jr. towards evg. Found them pretty well and passed a pleasant evg. there and at J. Barrow Jr.'s.

4th Day 31. Rode in town with J. B. Jr. and took a view of a church in Barker St. and one in Mercer St. By the way both partially rough cast, that in the latter ment. St. a handsome imitation of granite. Called at Henreray and Mackay's. Wrote to Ma Chere; and after some consultation reporting the Troy, Capn. Bourne expected to

arrive at New York today. Went on board the Steam Boat Linneus, Capn. Peck for Brunswick on the route to Phila, which started at 12 with about 100 passengers. Arrived at B. about ½ past 4 and at Trenton about 9. In the stage with me were about 3 or 4 noisy swaggering fellows one of whom I had occasion to check in his foolish sallies when the Hartford Convention was the subject. The others were well behaved and gentlemanly excepting one who was drunk at starting.

1st day 4 mo. 1. After a good night's sleep though not a long one we started again on board the Steam Boat New York, Capt. Doughan, for Phila., where we arrived about 10 o'clk. I attended with my uncle, where is my quarters, Pine Street Meetings. After the first I took a long walk up Pine & down Chestnut Streets, in the course of which I saw a good specimen of rough casting in imitation of granite on the Asylum for the deaf and dumb. And another one in a row of houses in Chestnut Street perhaps between 12th & 15th Streets. Dined at Uncle S.'s with Wm. Wharton and Cousin Deborah & their children Hannah & Rodman & with Dr. & Catharine Moore. Drank tea at Wm. Wharton's. They have a fine group of children—Hannah, yrs., Rodman, 7 y., Sarah, 5, Charles 3, & Jos., 1 yr. In the evg. Jonathan Palmer & his wife & the father of the latter, Isaac L. Hopper called, also Mary Crim.

2nd day 2. Carlton: Left Phila. about 10 o'clk and arrived here at my brother Wm. R. Rodman's about ½ past 11. Found bro. and sister at Bussleton, about ½ a mile distant where they were assisting Eliza Drinker who was in the act of changing her residence. Dined and spent the day and evg. in conversation. The children all at home, Sam having preceded Charles & myself in leaving New York. Ellen I had not seen before. She is a bright little interesting child of 3 yrs. Chs. arrived in the evg. having accidentally discovered that Sam had passed through the City in time to take the mail stage on 1st day. He searched the City about 10 o'clk and came to William's about 7 P. M.

3rd day 3. Wakefield: After spending the mg. at Carlton, I came to this place to dine and lodge. Rode to the mills & Germantown & William Wister's where my niece Sarah Logan is comfortably settled. And at tea was joined by Wm. & Sarah & Peter Robeson & wife & Margaret Shoemaker & her niece.

4th day 4. Phila.: Spent the mg. At Wakefield and dined at Uncle Robeson's where my nephew Thos.

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met me by agreement, he having been in town during the forenoon. After dinner rode to the Manufacturing College of Manayunk, towards the Flat Rock bridge. After an early tea returned to the City. My visits all interesting, my niece Elizabeth a charming girl in appearance and disposition.

5th day 5. Walked with my cousin Thomas to the western part of the city to see some buildings covered in imitation of granite and spent an hour at the Academy of Sciences where is a fine collection of minerals and some splendid works on natural history, 2 large folio volumes with perhaps hundreds of coloured plates on Paroquets and two similar volumes indicating a variety equally extensive on the Humming Bird of North and South America and the Bird Of Paradise. But I was surprised to learn from Cousin T. that of the summer variety of the former only one variety inhabited North America. Called afterwards to see some marble mantles. Found some handsome patterns, full columns Ionic 90 dollars dark marble also light clouded at same price, handsome dark pilasters \$55. common chambers 25 or 30 to 15. Walked subsequently in the northern part of the city. Visited the Lehigh Coal yards and observed the coal arks, made of rough planks & boards in a square form one plank high and divided into three longitudinal compartments by two single planks. They are linked together in descending the river by iron bolts forming a hinge at each corner, giving to a continuous number of them the appearance of a long raft. What principally excited my curiosity was the fact that I had previously learned that these floating boxes carrying probably 8 to 10 tons should be put together for six tenths of a dollar. After delivering their cargoes they are taken to pieces and sold for lumber and the iron fastenings taken back to the mine to be used in the construction of others. Saw in my walk another handsome specimen of granite rough casting on the front of the Roman Catholic Church in North Fourth Street. Dined at Uncle's and spent a considerable part of the afternoon at Thos. W. Morgan's where were Sister Rebecca and Bro. Charles. Afterwards went with the latter to see some Lehigh grates and then to Dr. John Moore's to tea where I saw Robert Prinehall, James Mott & William Jones.

6th day 6th—Visited this forenoon with my kind cousin William Wharton, three of the Public Lancasterian Schools, 2 for boys & 1 for girls. And in the afternoon with Cousin Thos. I visited the

High School, Wm. Johnson principal. In the latter are taught Greek, Latin, German, Spanish, French and English, and Mathematics & drawing. 300 scholars, 8 tutors, 6 masters & the principal. With this I was much interested—Afterward I visited the Athenaeum and the new State Prison and the Fair Grounds, all with Cousin T. Called at Cousin Hannah Smith's, W. Morgan's, and drank tea at Chs. Folwell's. Called later in the evg. at Wm. Wharton's but they were at Uncle Sammy's where I saw them on my return.

7th day 7th. This morning at 6 o'clock I went onboard the Steam Boat Trenton at Philadelphia for Trenton where we arrived about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9, and were again on our journey a little before 10 in 5 stages. I was in No. 3, which was filled (with) civil people and we had a pleasant ride to New Brunswick, the weather being very fine and the roads free from dust. About $\frac{1}{4}$ before 10 o'clk we embarked onboard the Steam Boat Thistle at the latter place and proceeded down the Raritan for New York where we arrived about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 o'clk. & I am again at my old friend Harriet Robbins, quite comfortable, though not stylishly accommodated.

Manhattanville, 1st day 8th. Rose early to put a few things onboard the Packet for New Bedford procured last evg. together with a letter to my wife, and after breakfast took the stage for Manhattanville. Reached my father Prior's about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 10 and learned the family had all gone to mtg. whither I proceeded though rather late. Ann Bird spoke a short time. The mtg. otherwise silent and the whole satisfactory. Dined at Father's, called at Uncle John's and drank tea at bro. John's. All pretty well, except Mother & Sisters Ellen and Betsey, the former suffering with a cold, and sisters from the effects of their recent illness. The visit has been on the whole very pleasant and satisfactory considering its short period. I retire with the expectation of leaving for the city tomorrow. My wife's bro. Edmund was not at Man'le, which I regret as I shall not have so good an opportunity of seeing him in the City.

2nd day 9th. Rode into town in the stage this mg. (3.10th) Made a call at Wm. Prior's & Fish, Grinnell & Co.'s store. Called at Isaac Collins'. Saw Margaret, Isaac being out. Visited the High School under the care of Professors Griscom & Barnes. Called at Hannah & Henry Lawrence's. 9th. Called at Wm. Prior's house and Hannah Lawrence's. Examined some grates for Lehigh coal &c. Drank

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tea at Thos. Jenkins'. 10th. Called at Uncle Hazard's and Robert Walker's store and embarked on board the Steam Boat Connecticut, Capn. Comstock at 3 o'clk for Newport. The weather very fine and the prospect for a passage good. (The notes of this and the preceding day are somewhat confused from their being written several days later than their dates).

4th day 11th. Providence. Embarked yesterday with a fine prospect for a passage onboard the Steam Boat Connecticut, Capn' Comstock for Newport, the wind being fair and the weather fine. We were off Huntingdon before dark and after spending the evg. in writing I retired expecting to find ourselves in Newport in the morning. But a thick fog came over towards midnight which induced the Capt. to stop the engine & finally to anchor till after sunrise this morning, the fog still continuing very thick. A transient abatement enabled us to see the Gull Light. Soon afterward we shaped our course with confidence and continued to run until about 12 o'clk. when we were hailed by a vessel not far distant but invisible. It proved to be a brig from Havana, which Jas. De Wolf & his brother had chartered to bring themselves & a cargo to Bristol. We lay to for the passengers to come onboard and then proceeded again, guided by the compass & the lead. Shortly before reaching Newport the fog lighted up and after some time passed off. We reached N. about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 o'clk, when I found that the stage for New Bedford had gone, and returned onboard the boat & proceeded to Providence, where we arrived about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 o'clk. I stopped at Wilder's near the market and spent the time till night in walking about the town.

5th day 12th. Took a long walk about Providence before breakfast and left that place about 8 o'clk in the stage via Taunton—and reached home about 5 o'clk and had the satisfaction to find my family & friends in good health. Thus happily terminated my journey.

6th day 4th mo. 13th. 1827. Spent the forenoon in calling on my friends and at my new house. Afternoon partly at home and partly occupied abroad. Called at Grandfather's, Father's, Andrew's & Sister Sarah's. Evg. partly spent in writing. J. H. W. Page called.

7th day 14th. Rode out to my lot A. M. with Ma Chere H. & the twins to enjoy the fine air & sunshine. Employed mostly afterwards at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

1st day 15th. Attended meetings. Called at Ch. W. Morgan's and walked a little after mtg. P. M. and attended at a baptizing. Rem. of the day & evg. at home. My nephew T. R. Robeson called.

2nd day 16th. Devoted the day & evg. principally to arrangements for prosecuting my building of barn &c, &c.

3rd day 17th. Engaged in relation to the renewal of my mason's operations in building &c and at my new house lot. Begun to dig the barn cellar &c today. Rode out of town in different directions in furtherance of the same objects.

4th day 18th. Engaged through the day in relation to my building operations. Rode twice to the head of the river. Evg. at home. Andrew's children, Martha & Andrew, drank tea with us. Thos. & Wm. spent the evg. with us.

5th day 19th. Occupied principally at the cg. house. Met in the evg. with the School Com'ee. Thomas and Lydia Green drank tea with us.

6th day 20th. Engaged most of the day and evg. in relation to my house &c. Principally with the subject of marble chimney pieces. Drank tea with Ma Chere H., sister, & the children at Father's.

7th day 21st. Spent the day principally in attention to subjects connected with my building operations, several masons from Pennsylvania having arrived to build my barn &c. Evg. at home. Gave some attention to Cg. house business in the course of the day.

1st day 22nd. Attended meetings and spent the rem. of the day & evg. at home.

2nd day 23rd. Spent the day in relation to my building operations, the Penna. masons began today to lay the walls of the barn. Evg. at the Cg. house making preparations to leave home tomorrow, being subpoena'd to attend court as a witness in the case of the demolition of the Ark. I am pleased that I know nothing that will implicate anybody in the unlawful transaction.

(Perhaps at this juncture it would be well to retrace a few steps and relate the story of the Ark riots. They are ably told in the words of the annalist himself, the excerpts being taken from the diary covering the previous year.—Ed.)

July 18. About 12 o'clk. last night I was awakened by the cry of murder in the neighbourhood. It appeared to proceed from a person in the street, coming from the Ark and going up Water Street. I heard the cry not very loud many

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times till the sound was lost in the distance. I got up & went to the window, saw several persons passing in the direction which by the sound I judged the person making the cry to have taken. Went to a window which looks toward the Ark. Saw lights in various parts and heard much talking, but the rustling of the leaves of the elm tree in the yard by the wind, which was high, prevented my understanding anything. Retired again to bed & heard nothing further. H. Holt heard the cry earlier than I did, when it clearly proceeded from the Ark. I have not heard any particular cause for the disturbance, but such is the character of the families inhabiting that disgraceful building and that of those who frequent it that it would not be at all strange if murder should be committed in their drunken and libidinous orgies. A woman who had been at the infamous scenes of the establishment hung herself about two weeks since. Evening. I have not heard the particulars of the disturbance last night noted above. Most of the families in the neighbourhood were disturbed. Spent the day mostly at home. Attended at the Inst'n for Savings & called a while to see grandfather. Evening otherwise at home.

Aug. 4 and 5. I spent the 4th mostly at the c'g house. Dined at A. Robinson's with Ma. Chere H. and sisters. Also took tea there late in the evening occasioned by an extraordinary popular excitement in our neighborhood which made it appear necessary for me to remain through the evening at home, the object of the populace appeared to be the destruction of the Ark, the profligate character of the tenants & visitors being such as to have rendered it ever since its occupancy a standing reproach to its owner Asa Smith and to the town for suffering its continuance as an acknowledged or rather as a reputed brothel of the lowest class. To the neighborhood it was exceedingly offensive by the carousing which frequently took place there, the profane and lidious conversation and language which those most contiguous were obliged to hear and the dissolute manners of the men towards the women which by reason of the conspicuous position, plan, and height of the building and the little restraint which governed the conduct of the tenants &c were forced upon the observation of the neighborhood for a considerable distance in a westerly and northerly direction. Endeavors had been used to induce the selectmen to remedy the evil but they from a distrust of their powers or a belief that they could only effect

a partial and temporary remedy did not take any decisive measures, though it is reported that they did on the 4th give the owner notice that he was complained of to the Grand Jury. Such being the state of things, the feelings of the populace were made more keenly alive to the disgraceful if not dangerous character of the house by the suspicion that a white man had been murdered at some small house of bad character kept by people of colour in Dartmouth about 1 mile distant from this village, and although no satisfactory evidence appeared to establish the fact, it resting on the testimony of some boys who were gathering whortelberries in the vicinity and discovered by treading upon the face of a dead man imperfectly covered by leaves &c., yet so strongly excited were the feeling of a part of our population on the subject that it is said a plan was formed to destroy the Ark on the night of the 3d but was prevented from being executed by the circumstances of the death of child there, the corpse remaining unburied. It is said that they then proceeded to the neighborhood where the murder was supposed to have been committed and destroyed three small houses and a barn which was also inhabited by persons of bad character. It is a fact that the buildings were destroyed that night. On the succeeding day much conservation took place in town relating to the destruction of the houses mentioned, and it was reported through the day that the Ark was to be destroyed the next night. The report was so current that I doubted, from its publicity, the seriousness of the intentions, but about sunset it was apparent from the throng in the streets in our neighborhood that something was meditated or expected. Some of the tenants, for there were five families in the Ark, took the alarm and removed their things and left the building, but a number remained and it was said were prepared with hot water and stones to resist an attack should it be made. Soon after sunset the crowd was considerably increased and stones began to be thrown at the building, it is presumed by boys, which was continued with occasional small intermissions till the tenants were cleared, which was finally effected by bringing a cannon &c with demonstrations indicating an intention to fire upon them. This induced the inhabitants to leave the building which they did unmolested about ½ past 9 or 10 o'clk. It should be observed that the people had no powder and that this was only a stratagem which as I think fortunately succeeded, as lives might have been lost if the

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possession had been gained by assault. After possession was obtained they went deliberately to work to destroy the building. This cost them much and severe labor, for it was unexpectedly very strong. About $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 o'clock they had got most of the side boarding knocked off, all of the partitions, & some of the rafters of the roof down. At this time a fire showed itself a little westerly of the place of the demolished chimney, which kindled rapidly when the persons on the building and without appeared surprised and called for water, the people seemed alarmed, and immediately retreated with precipitation crying fire. The combustion went on with great rapidity, and before the engines could be got there and ready for operation the fire had spread throughout the shattered structure and communicated to Gen'l Lincoln's barn. The adjacent buildings contiguous to the Ark, viz on Smith's lot and W'm. Swain's sp'ti man'y which caught fire were saved. The weather as to wind was very favorable, it being almost calm. Burning cinders fell on our house and many other buildings, particularly our neighbor Lincoln's, but with a little attention they were safe. Thus terminated, about sunrise, the riotous proceedings of the night preceeding although provoked by the recent occurrences real or supposed at the settlement of the depraved people of colour at Dartmouth, and justified in the view of the actors by the infamous character of the house, and the alleged insufficiency of the existing laws to afford a thorough remedy to the evil, is much to be regretted. The civil law had not been tried, the impression of its inadequacy had not been proved & it might be incorrect, and regular measures should always precede at least, even in evils of the magnitude in question, a recourse to the dangerous expedient of popular violence. Although there are reports of some serious accidents it is gratifying that there were none to endanger life. It is a fact that a most aggravated nuisance is eradicated, and done too doubtless on the part of many of the actors with laudable motives, and in which they have the sanction of probably a large majority of the inhabitants, and although the means are, from their harshness and illegal character, not to be justified, the example it exhibits of the popular feeling on the score of the profligacy which has characterized a large part of the coloured inhabitants or residents of our town, will it is hoped be of permanent usefulness in restraining in some degree the licentiousness of their conduct, and more

particularly in deterring any citizen of a different class from outraging decency and the obligations of the social relation, as in the case of the owner of the Ark, by concentrating in the heart of a respectable neighborhood such prolific seeds of moral pestilence. The loss of the latter is judged to be from \$1500 to \$2000.

Taunton, 3rd day, 4th mo., 1827.

Set off on this mg. with my father in his gig for Taunton, I being suppoena'd to attend the Supreme Judicial Court to give information if I possessed any that would incriminate the actors in the riot which resulted in the destruction of our neighbor Asa Smith's "Ark." Nearly 30 others were summoned in the same case. Took lodgings at Cap'n. Hall's, where are the Attorney Gen'l. & lady. Was not called before the Grand Jury today, other cases engaging their attention. Called at J. T. Russell's and spent much time at the Ct. house. Ev'g at lodgings.

4th day 25th. Was called before the Grand Jury this afternoon but was soon dismissed as I could give no information which could criminate anybody, which was also the case with all the others examined. I have leave to go home when I please & design leaving tomorrow mg. My father will remain to see the issue of one or two trials.

5th day 26th. Left Taunton about half past 6 o'clock. Breakfasted at Sampson's in Middleborough & reached home about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11. Father remained at Taunton an acc't of the pending trials of George Nixon for an indigntment for assault and battery procured by Asa Smith, and of Nathan Johnson, Norris Anderson & others for an alleged riot occasioned by a visit of a coloured man from New York or father south whose object it was said was to get information of run-away slaves.

6th day 27th. Occupied most of the day at my house lot. Made a further trial of my stone breaker, the weight raised by a horse. Ev'g. at home.

7th day 28th. Engaged a. m. in making a further trial with my machine for breaking stones. But not succeeding to my mind, I have concluded to abandon the project. P. m. passed at home and at the Cg. House. Ev'g. mostly at home. Called to see Father who arrived late from Taunton. The cases which excited his interest were postponed to the adjournment of the Court in August.

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1st day 29th. Attended meeting a. m. An erroneous impression as to the hour of meeting this afternoon prevented my attendance. Called at father's, Andrew's and Charles', at each of which places there is some indisposition from severe colds. Father has recovered from the fatigue & exposure of his jaunt to Taunton. The weather has been very wet & unpleasant for the week past, so as to have protracted to this time B. & Susan's absence on their journey to Northampton where they went to take Andrew's boys, Thos. and William, having also an expectation of finding brother Wm. who was expected to be at Northampton with his son, & and bringing him to this place, he intending to make a visit here before his return homeward.

2nd day 4 mo. 30th. This day has been chiefly shared by my cg. house duties and those relating to building. Walked out with the children, and attended the meeting of the Bank Directors. Engaged in the evening in relation to the Probate adjustment of the estate of Barzillai Hammond deceased at Benj. father's &c, &c.

3rd day 5 mo. 1st. Engaged a. m. in assisting Sally Hammond at Probate Court, etc., etc. In attendance at the Inst. for Savings, etc. P. m. occupied at the cg. house; evg. at father's to see bro. William who arrived today with Benj. and Susan from Northampton.

4th day 2nd. Engaged a. m. in family and cg. house duties. Dined and spent most of the afternoon and evg. at Father's where was a family party to meet br. William. I only of our family was there.

5th day 3rd. Spent the morning after calling at grandfather's to assist in getting him up, at my house lot. Dined and drank tea at Sister Anna's. Evg. partly at a mtg. of the School Committee.

6th day 4th. Spent the morning principally about my house. P. m. attended a meeting of the School Committee. Passed some time at the P. S. house and gave some attention to pruning shrubs, etc. Evg. principally at father's. Br. William returned about 8 from Fall River where he had been with father & Andrew to see the place with a view to removal from Penna. He made a call here to take leave, designing to return tomorrow homeward.

7th day 5th. Occupied a. m. in writing on the subject of the connection of shops for the sale of sp. liquors with groceries and toll houses. P. m. at the Cg. house. Evg. at home. Bro. William took the

Newport stage this morning to meet the steam boat for New York. His visit was very short, but very pleasing.

1st day 6th. Attended meetings and otherwise, except walking to the Academy yard, passed the day & evg. at home. Eliza Howland spent the evg. with us.

2nd day 7th. Spent the forenoon at the newly established Town School under George Baker. P. m. at the Cg. house. Evg. at home. Nathan Winslow took tea and spent the evg. with us.

3rd day 8th. Spent the morning mostly at the new Public School. P. m. at my house lot. Evg. at home.

4th day 9th. Spent most of the day in attending to my garden &c. The masons completed the underpinning of my barn. Made several calls in the evg. to inform the other owners of the Thos. Dickason of the arrival of sd. ship at Liverpool on the 4th. ult. on the same day that the packet ship Canada arrived. They sailed together on the 16th or 4rd mo. Rem. of evg. at home.

5th day 10th. Spent a good part of the morning at the garden. P. m. at the Cg. room &c. Evg. at home. Sister Eliza drank tea with us. J. H. N. Page called. The former remained through the night in consequence of a great rain this evg.

6th day 11th. Devoted the morning principally to my building premises. P. m. at the Cg. house. Evg. house. Evg. at br. Benj'm's where were collected a family party.

7th day 11th. Spent the forenoon principally at & about my new house &c. P. m. at the Cg. house. Evg. attended the launching of the fine new ship Napoleon built by Abm. Gifford for C. Grinnell of Wm. R. Rotch & Co. &c., &c.

1st day 13th. Attended meetings and passed the rem. of the day & evg. at home in reading, writing &c.

2nd day 14th. Attended at the polls A. M. for choice of Representatives to the Genl. Court, & P. M. for Representative to Congress—James A. Parker and Thos. A. Greene chosen for the former. Occupied considerably at my building premises & spent some time at the Cg. rooms. Evg. at home.

3rd day 15th. Spent part of the mg. in readg. on gardening. Gave some attention at my house and attended at the Inst. for Savings P. M. mostly at my farming lot, planted parsnips and beets.

4th day 16th. Spent the day at my building & farming lots. Planted carrots and onions. Evg. attend-

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ed a mtg. at Holmes Mtg. house. Sermon by Bishop Chase of Ohio, whose object in his visit to this place is to obtain donations to augment the funds of a Collegiate Seminary, established or projected in that state, that intellectual and moral cultivation may in some degree keep pace with the gigantic scale of population in the states west of the Alleghany Mountains. The object interesting but the advocate not very able. Called at Andrew's to accompany Sister P. home who drank tea there with the twins.

5th day 17th. Attended a meeting of the Trustees of Frds. Academy and devoted the afternoon to operations at my farm garden. Planted lima and other pole beans. Evg. at home.

6th day 18th. Gave my attention principally to my home & garden out of town. Planted peas, dwarf beans, sweet corn, squashes & Russia turnips. Also prepared pea brushes. Took out the twins in the cart to the brush woods and to the lot. They were delighted with the excursion. Evg. at Uncle William's on business connected with the Academy.

7th day 19th. Spent most of the morning about my house. P. M. sowed some cabbage seed &c in the adjacent garden. Had my hams taken from Andrew's smoke house and put in bags. Spent some time at the Social Library and at the cg. room. Part of the evg. at the latter place, rem. at Uncle William's on business relating to the Academy.

1st day 20th. Attended meeting A. M. Called at C. W. Morgan's. Walked with Ma Chere H. & sister & twins to C. W. M.'s & my new house. Spent some time in writing & attended mtg. with Sister Phebe at the South Baptist mtg. house in the evg. Sermon by W. Perry, the pastor.

2nd day 21st. Engaged A. M. at the cg. house. P. M. at my house lot. Evg. at home and at the cg. house, relating to building &c.

3rd day 22nd. Occupied about home & at the cg. house A. M. P. M. at my new house except an hour at the cg. house. Attended at the Institution for Savings. Spent latter part of the evg. at Father's. He is considerably unwell but relieved from the severity of his indisposition as existing a day or two since.

4th day 23rd. Engaged most of the day at the cg. house, evg. at home. Called at father's. He yet continues quite unwell.

5th day 24th. Engaged most of the day at my new house. Evg. called at father's who continues an

invalid. Cousin Eunice Macy & her niece Abigail Barney visiting there, Sister Phebe also there at tea.

6th day 25th. A. M. attended at mtg. of the Trustees of Fr'ds Academy. P. M. engaged in study at home. Evg. called at Father's with Ma Chere H.

7th day 26th. A. M. engaged at home & in attending at the Academy with the trustees to hear the quarterly report, which was satisfactory. P. M. at my new house, evg. at the cg. house. Brig Troy bound from Charleston touched here in consequence of the ill health of Capt. Bourne. She is expected to sail tomorrow under Capt. Bennet Dunbar.

1st day 27th. Attended mtg. A. M. Detained by assistance to Grandfather with whom I spent the time of mtg. Called also at father's with Ma Chere H. & the children, who is still considerably unwell but perhaps a little better. Evg. at home.

2nd day 28th. Occupied most of the day at my building premises. The 2nd flooring of the barn put on today, as well as the stone cap to carriage house doors which was a job of some delicacy on acct. of the slender size of the stone towards the middle. Ephm. Kempton came to work on the house with some of his hands, having been at work before.

3rd day 29th. Spent most of the day at the cg. house. Called at father's in the evg. He is not so well today experiencing more pain than for some days past. Sister P. rather better. Ma Chere H. in quite feeble health.

4th day 30th. Engaged most of the day at my building premises. Called at father's and grandfather's. The former rather better than yesterday.

5th day 31st. Forenoon at the cg. house. P. M. partly spent at my new house. Evg. at home. Rode a short distance with Ma Chere H. about noon, and called at Sister Sarah's & at Wm. Swift's Furn. warehouse. Father rather better today.

6th day 6 month 1st. Spent the day mostly at the cg. house, evg. also partly there. Weather showery or squally and cool, a fire comfortable.

7th day 2nd. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Evg. at home, except half an hour at father's. He is better today. The masons have completed my drains from the new house as far as they can do at present to advantage. That from the sinks is carried from the center of the south middle window of the east side due east about 50 feet; made circular of brick laid in mortar 9 inches

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in diameter. That from the bath about 20 feet east a little northerly, the inclination of the latter is sharp to get it to the proper depth at the wall which supports the bank at the east side of the house. The latter is made of brick laid in water lime & plastered over the lower half with Roman cement. Each will terminate in a cesspool a little in advance of their present termination.

1st day 3rd. Attended meetings. Called at Ch.'s; father and grandfather's. Chs. somewhat unwell, Father better, & walked to visit Grandfather, the latter more comfortable than for several days but more feeble than this day week. Thos. W. Morgan & his daughter & E. Drinker & 2 of her children arrived from Phila. Evg. spent at home.

2nd day 4th. Spent a considerable part of the day at my building premises. Rode the latter part of the afternoon with Sister Phebe & the children. Evg. at home.

3rd day 5th. Occupied during most of the day at my new house &c., where many men are at work. Called on Thos. W. Morgan. Evg. at home. W. Page called.

4th day 6th. Engaged most of the mg. at my house. P. M. devoted some time to the cg. house, and rode out to my lot with the children & Sister Phebe. Evg. at Charles'. Drank tea with Sister P.—a family party.

5th day 7th. Occupied through the day at my new house. The plasterers began to cover the rooms, and put the first coat on the north parlour & library. Rode into the country to procure withes for the last stage of the barn except for the gable ends. Made preparations for bell wires &c. Evg. at home.

NOTE

Because of considerable confusion which I believe has been caused by my maintaining the dates of entries as they are given in the diary, I have decided to put these dates in the modern form, departing from the original only for the sake of clarity and avoiding the above mentioned confusion.

B. F. S.

Wherein Samuel Rodman carries on the entries, mainly concerned with the illness of his grandfather, his new house which is progressing apace and the arrival in New Bedford of the ship Charles, home from the Pacific Ocean.

June 8, 1827. Spent the morning chiefly at my new house, arranging for bells &c. Dined at father's

with Thos. Morgan & a family party. Evg. partly at a mtg. of the School Comm'ee. Rem. at father's.

June 9. Spent the morning principally at my new house. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Sister P. and F. Rotch took tea.

June 10. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at Charles' and grandfather's & spent the rem. of the day & evg. at home.

June 11. Spent the day on duty at the opening of the Public High school under Emerson. Attended at noon in place of the Treas. of the Inst. for Savings. Drank tea and spent the evg. at Andrew's where T. W. Morgan and the families attended. He leaves tomorrow for Boston & home.

June 12. Spent part of the forenoon at my new house. Attended at the Inst. for Savings and was occupied at the cg. house P. M. Evg. at home.

June 13. Spent most of the day at my new house. Evg. at home. End rafters of the barn raised this afternoon. Begun to put up chimney pieces.

June 14. Except riding out to David's with Harriet & the children to make Rebecca, the late nurse of the latter, a visit, and spending some time, including the evg. at the cg. house, my new house has claimed my attention, getting dressed granite from wharf &c.

June 15. Engaged through the mg. at the cg. house. Soon after dinner Enoch Lewis, formerly my school master at Newgarden, Penna., (arrived) with whom I spent the afternoon and evg. making calls in furtherance of his object of procuring subscribers to his monthly journal designed to aid in alleviating the calamity of slavery in our country.

June 16. E. Lewis left us this mg. in the stage for Boston. I called on Samuel Parsons & wife who with their sister Ann Bourne and their son James arrived in town yesterday from Newport where they had attended the yearly meeting. They are valued friends of our family and we have been several times at their respective residences at Flushing, Long Island. We had their company at tea. The feeble health of my wife and Sister P's disqualification by cold preventing our showing more attention. Mother also drank tea with us.

June 17. 1st day. I attended meetings. Ma Chere and Sister P. confined at home. S. Parsons gave us a good practical sermon and a

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sensible & fervent prayer. Called at Grandfather's & father's. Attended at grandfather's about sunset to assist in getting him to bed.

June 18. Engaged a. m. about home & at the cg. house. Dined at Father's with S. Parsons & party & Roland Hazard. Drank tea there & spent the evg. at a meeting of the School Comm'ee. Called with S. Parsons at my grandfather's to whom the visit was mutually satisfactory.

June 19. Called on S. Parsons & wife and saw them start on the stage for Boston. Called at Cousin Frank's to see Eliza Drinker &c. Spent considerable time at my house. Evg. at home. Begun to lay the steps of the north front.

June 20. Spent most of the day at my new house &c. Finished laying the steps of the north front. The Penna. masons completed the walls of my barn about the middle of the afternoon. Attended to assist about grandfather's and spent the evg. at a mtg. of the School Comm'ee at my Cg. House.

June 21. Occupied most of the day at the cg. house. Evg. also there. Attended at grandfather's.

June 22. Spent the day mostly at the cg. house & at my new house. Attended at sunset at grandfather's who has had a very feeble day. Evg. at home.

June 23. Spent some time at the cg. house, and at my new house. Rem'r. principally at home. Evg. attended at grandfather's, and joined an evg. party at a strawberry entertainment at bro. Andrew's.

June 24. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at A. Russell's with a view to seeing Sarah Grinnell, but she was out of town. Called also at Jas. Arnold's. An English friend, Thomas Shillette, preached at both meetings. Attended at grandfather's and spent the rem. of the day & evg. at home. Saw at J. A.'s, his sister Anna, who with her mother arrived yesterday from Providence to take up their residence in their new house not yet quite completed, near Jas.'s, the decease of fr'd. Arnold rendering the removal expedient and desirable to them.

June 25. Engaged most of the (day) at my new house or in relation to operations there. Evg. at home. Called to assist at grandfather's as usual. The masons began to rough cast my barn today and will probably finish tomorrow.

June 26. Engaged most of the day at the cg. house &c. Evg. at a meeting of the trustees of the Institution for savings. The masons finished rough casting my barn today with the exception of a few

small places left for the stage on the south side to protect the plastering from threatened rain.

June 27th. Occupied most of the day at my new house, where preparations have been making among other things for the outside coating, by erecting the stage on the east side &c. Evg. engaged at writing &c. Our little Thomas vaccinated today by Dr. Read.

June 28. Engaged with but little exception at my new house &c. The weather being rainy A. M. prevented the masons beginning to plaster the outside of the house. They will probably begin tomorrow. Evg. at home. Had the company of E. Drinker & her sisters Ann & Susan & bro. Ben & Ann Morgan after tea. Sally Hammond also & Sister E. at tea.

June 29. Engaged part of the mg. at the cg. huse, rem. of the day at the new house. East side plastered 1st and part of 2nd coats. Attended at grandfather's and at a Mtg. of the school comm'ee. Sister Ann called here P. M. & Cousin E. Rotch in the evg.

June 30. Occupied principally about my new house. The masons put on the finishing coat for about half of the east side, and begun to colour it. Two showers in the afternoon interrupted their progress a little. Sister E. drank tea with us, who with Sister P. & self repaired after to Sister Anna's where we were regaled on delicious strawberries.

July 1. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at father's and grandfather's. Rem. of the day and evg. at home. Appearances warrant some hope that the vaccination of little Thos. has taken.

July 2. Engaged most of the forenoon at my new house. The masons would probably have finished the east side if they had not been interrupted by rain. P. M. at the Bank &c. Called to see Capt. Brayton who arrived with the Charles today from the Pacific—full.

Wherein the annalist works at getting the discharge of the Ship Charles completed, the masons finish the plaster coating on his new house, and a son is born to him.

July 3. Engaged most of the day in relation to the ship Charles. Attended at the Inst. for Savings and at grandfather's. Evg. partly at the cg. house, rem at home. The vaccination of Little Thos. appears to have taken very well.

July 4. Spent the day principally at the cg, house & wharf. This being the anniversary of the Declara-

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tion of Independence, but little work could be done on board the Charles. Evg. at home. Called to assist at grandfather's but found myself too late though not later than usual, the debilitating weather made him wish to retire to bed earlier than usual.

July 5. Engaged mostly at the wharf & store. Had the company of father & mother & Sister Lydia who is on a visit from Fall River, and Eliza at tea. Sister Anna came after tea.

July 6. Occupied all day at the cg. house & wharf &c. Attended at grandfather's.

July 7. Engaged most of the day at the wharf & cg. house. Gave some attention to my new house. The south side is about $\frac{1}{2}$ finished by the masons. Evg. at home. Our little Thomas appears to be passing very successfully through the kine pock.

July 8. 1st day. Attended meetings. Walked to my lot. Evg. at home. Anna Braithwaite from England was at mtg. and gave us two long & interesting sermons. Sister Sarah and her children spent the afternoon with Ma Chere H. who of late has not been out. Chas. W. M., Sally Hammond & Nancy Swain called in the evg.

July 9. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & wharf. Evg. at home. The masons finished the south side of my house today.

July 10. Occupied mostly at the wharf &c. Finished discharge of the ship Charles. Rode round my house with Ma Chere. Called with her at Sister Anna's. Evg. at home after 9. Previously about the Charles, visiting, & took a sea bath.

July 11. Engaged principally about the cg. house, wharf &c. Evg. at home. The masons erected the stage for finishing the north side of my house.

July 12. Engaged mostly at the cg. house &c. Gave some attention to my new house. The masons begun this afternoon, the weather A. M. being rainy, to plaster the north side. Evg. at home.

July 13. Engaged A. M. at the cg. house. P. M. at my own house. Evg. called D. Coffin's. Rem. at home. Mother spent part of it with us. Got in my first load of hay in my new barn. Sister P. rode with the children to the hayfield. They were much delighted.

July 14. Engaged principally at the cg. house &c. Drank tea & spent the evg. at Father's. Eliza Bourne of New York & one or two others there.

July 15. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at Andrew's, Charles', & A. Russell's. Joan. Robeson drank tea with me. Eliza Drinker

& Susan Rodman called to see Ma Chere who saw them in her room. Bro. Charles came with them.

July 16—Occupied through the day at the cg. house. Evg. spent there also. Sister Sarah is quite unwell.

July 17. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & wharf. Evg. at home. My nephew Thos. R. Fisher called, having arrived today from Philadelphia.

July 18. Engaged through the day in relation to the Charles. Rode to Fair Haven on business and took Sister Phebe & the children in the Dearborn. Evg. at home.

July 19. Engaged at the cg. house & wharf through the day. Evg. at home. Aunt Mary, Cousin Eliza & Sister Eliza called.

July 20. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & whf. except part of the afternoon occupied in visiting the school in Dist. No. 1, with J. Congdon. Evg. at home. Hannah Macy called. The Ship Winslow arrived from the Pacific—full.

July 21. Engaged through the day at the cg. house &c. except a part of the afternoon spent at my house. The masons completed the west and last side with the finish in imitation of granite. The imitation is very good and if the coating should withstand the frosts of our climate and retain its fine appearance the mode will probably be considerably practiced. The children & their Aunt Phebe took a short ride today, the weather delightful.

July 22. 1st day. Remained at home most of the day with my family. Called at father's and Andrew's, and had a call at tea from Thos. R. Fisher. Ma Chere H. much unwell. Mother spent part of the evg. with her.

July 23. Engaged the forenoon in settling with the masons for building my barn & finishing the exterior of my house. A. M. at the cg. room &c. Evg. engaged in relation to the funds of Friends Academy.

July 24. Engaged A. M. at the cg. house & at my new house. Attended at the Institution for Savings and visited with J. Congdon the Public School in Dist. No. 3. Evg. at a mtg. of the School Comm'ee at J. A. Parker's.

July 25. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & wharf &c. Rode a short distance with Ma Chere H. Evg. at home. Mother called P. M.

July 26. Engaged assiduously at the cg. house through the day. Evg. at home. Sister Eliza & Nephew Thomas called.

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July 27. Actively engaged at intervals in relation to the ship Charles, which went into the stream about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 o'clk. But my attention was much absorbed by circumstances of a more interesting nature—circumstances connected with the birth of another son. My dear H. had for some time been expecting it with the anxiety resulting from the experience of similar events, and with deep feelings of gratitude I add that thus for the result has been favorable and the prospect looks auspicious. The child was born about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 2 o'clk and this record is made at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 P. M.

Wherein the annalist reports the sailing of the Charles, but recently returned from the Pacific. His wife begins to regain her strength. He attends much at affairs of the Academy and the School Committee

July 28, 1827. Assiduously engaged throughout the day & evg. in preparing the Charles to sail tomorrow. Ma Chere H. & the petite are pretty comfortable.

July 29. 1st day. Engaged early this morning in getting away the Charles, in which we succeeded, she being under full way below the island about 8 o'clock. From the unfavorable appearances early this morning measures were taken for warping her through the passage to the outer harbor, but by a change of a few points in the wind this was rendered unnecessary, and I presume she got to sea about 2 o'clk. It is always a very pleasant circumstance after the trouble of fitting a ship is gone through with and the greater perplexity of getting the men onboard over, to have her get to sea without delay. The unmanly reluctance which we have to meet in the men, to a prompt fulfillment of their duty in going onboard when wanted, is always a source of great anxiety, and requires some legislative interposition to lessen the evil. Attended meeting A. M. and spent the rem. of day & evg. principally at home. Called a short time at Charles' & father's. My dear wife and the infant continue to do well and thus far our nursery prospects continue pleasant. Sister Anna & H. Macy called.

July 30. Engaged through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home occupied with accounts. The nursery gets on without much diminution of favorable circumstances. Mother spent the evg. with Ma Chere H.

July 31. Spent the day at counting house duties. Evg. engaged with C. W. Morgan who goes to Boston tomorrow on some business in which we are mutually concerned. Ma Chere H. not quite so well today.

August 1. Engaged at the cg. house through the day except time spent at home & a call at my new house. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. a little better today. The children rode P. M.

August 2. Occupied at the cg. house A.M. Attended to some business of the School Comm'ee with Thos. A. Greene. Rode a short distance with E. & Thos. to get some wild cherry twigs for Ma Chere H. who continues in a very weak state. Evg. partly at the cg. house; rem. at home. Sister Eliza & S. Hammond called.

August 3. Attended the quarterly examination of the high school A. M. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. had a comfortable night and has had a good day. Neighbor Lincoln called, also Sister E. Ed. & Mary have gone to pass the night with Rebecca.

August 4. Spent the forenoon at the High School examining candidates for admission. P. M. at my house & at the cg. house. The children returned from the country where they passed the night with their former nurse Rebecca Richmond who is at her sister's about 2 miles from town. They enjoyed themselves highly. The nursery gets on well.

August 5. 1st day. Attended A. M. and P. M. at Mr. Dewey's where I heard an excellent sermon. Evg. at home. Called at father's. Ma Chere H. sat up about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour today.

August 6. Engaged most of the day at the cg. house. Gave some attention to my operations at the new house, digging cistern & foundations for shed walls &c. The weather has been extremely warm, the mercury in my thermometer 91, and the hard exercise under the heat very oppressive. I took a sea bath in the evg. which in its effects was a great luxury & productive of very agreeable sensations through the evg.

August 7. Spent the day at the cg. house, my new house lot & the Inst. for Savings. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. has continued quite feeble, so that she has yet made almost no progress towards restoration to health. Jas. Jenney & his associates begun today the wall of my eastern sheds, & Browne &c to bring the base stones for my north fence. The cistern complete for the masons to work.

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August 8. Ma Chere H. has had an uncomfortable day & night so that my attention has been considerably taken at home. Dr. Read made two visits. The distress incident to the debility of her situation excited by the unfavorable operation has so far yielded to the prescriptions given as to warrant a hope for a good night & permanent relief. The rem. of my time was spent at the cg. house. The corpse of Anna Ricketson, wife of Jos. Ricketson was this day interred, having been brought from Middleborough where she dec'd., having been taken there for the benefit of change of airs. My engagements did not permit me to attend the funeral.

August 9. Spent the forenoon at the cg. house. Afternoon at my house lot. Called in the evg. at Abm. Russell's where I saw John Brewer, Elizabeth Paxon &——— Shoemaker.

August 10. Engaged A. M. at my house, cg. house & at home. Had the company of John Brewer & Thos. A. Greene & Sister E. to dine, the latter to tea. Evg. at home. The carpenters began the fence on the north side of my house lot. Ma Chere H. continues slowly recovering.

August 11. Engaged A. M. at a mtg. of the Trustees of Friends Academy and occupied much of the afternoon in relation to Academy business. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. sat up twice today, 3 or 4 hours in the whole.

August 12. 1st day. Attended mtg. Called at grandfather's, dined at father's. Evg. at home.

August 13. Engaged A. M. at my house & the cg. house. P. M. at the Academy at a meeting of the trustees & at an examination of a class in History. Drank tea and spent the evg. at grandfather's where were the Phila. party who were at father's yesterday.

August 14. Spent a considerable part of the morning at my new House. After at the cg. house. Attended at the Institution for Savings. The masons accomplished the walls of my east shed and begun the foundations of the west.

August 15. Spent the day at the cg. house in business relating to the Ship Winslow to sail tomorrow. Evg. in engagements directed to the same end. Mother called & Benj. & Susan to see Ma Chere H. who improves rapidly.

August 16. Engaged A. M. considerably at my new house. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

Wherein the annalist is concerned mainly with his new house and makes much progress there.

His wife improves, but his little son Thomas is ill, and he too has an indisposition. A law case, an accident, and what land was worth around County Street in

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August 17, 1827. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Spent an hour at my new house P. M. Evg. at home. Eliza Drinker & Sister Susan & Anna & Andrew & Benjamin called.

August 18. Attended A. M. a mtg. of the Trustees of the Academy & the quarterly annunciation of the rank &c of the students. P. M. occupied as sec'y of the Trustees. Evg. at bro. Benj'm's where Sister P. & I drank tea with a family party.

August 19. 1st day. Attended meeting and called to see Sister Sarah who is quite feeble yet and in her room. Spent part of the afternoon with the children at father's. Evg. at home. Aunt Mary called to see Ma Chere H. who continues to improve.

August 20. Occupied A. M. in relation to my house, and rode with Sister P & the children to Uncle William Rotch Jr.'s farm on business connected with it. P. M. at my house lot. Evg. at home & at the cg. house. The masons (J. Jenney &c) finished the shed walls today. I laid out the scite of my wood house &c.

August 21. Engaged principally in relation to my new house A. M. The masons begun the rain-water cistern today. Had some conversation with Abm. Russell in reference to a purchase from him of the title to the part of the land adjoining my lot or rather dividing it which was designed for a street. Came to the understanding that he will give a title for 10\$ a rod. The School Comm'ee met at my house this evg.

August 22. Occupied at my new house & count'g house. Rode P. M. to Smith Mills with the children. Evg. at home. Aunt Rotch called P. M. & Mother in the evg.

August 23. Occupied most of the day at my house. The masons finished the cistern. Evg. at home. Sister E. with us. Ma Chere H. not quite so well today.

August 24. Engaged A. M. at my house. Dined at father's which occupied most of the afternoon. Evg. at home. J. Grinnell & wife & Sisters Frances & Sally Russell, Sister Anna & Benj. & C. W. Morgan (called).

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August 25. Occupied most of the day at the cg. house & evg. also. Rode a short distance with Ma Chere H. for the first time since her confinement. She is pretty well but is confined mostly to her chamber.

August 26. 1st day. Attended mtg. and remained at home the rem. of the day, the weather being very rainy. Eliza Drinker called to see Ma Chere H. with her little son.

August 27. Spent most of the morning at my new house. Dined & spent the afternoon at Bro. Andrew's where were Gideon Welles of Trenton & father &c. Evg. at home. Little Thos. has been quite unwell today. Dr. Reed called twice to see him. Somewhat relieved by his prescriptions.

August 28. Spent most of the mg. at my new house. Dined with G. Welles &c. at father's. Evg. at home. Attended at the Inst. for Savings. Little Thos. had a very sick night but is much better today. Father made a call to see Ma Chere H.

August 29. Spent the day at my new house. Evg. at home. Our little Thos. continues unwell. Dr. Read made two visits. Ma Chere H. had several calls from her friends & relatives.

August 30. Devoted a couple of hours A. M. in searching for & obtaining marsh-mallows. Attended meeting & witnessed the marriage of Benj. Russell & Hannah Howland. Evg. at home. Spent most of the afternoon at my new house.

August 31. Spent the day principally at the new house. Attended as a witness in action against Abraham Culp on a charge of theft by Jos. Mc Clay for retaining the sieves used on my house which were my property & 2 brushes belonging to McClay which were retained for safe keeping. The complaint, induced by a private pique from the natural consequences of McClay's drunken habits, was of course not sustained. Apollo Tobey Esq., magistrate. John Francis while loading a rock for blasting was blown up by its explosion and had his left thigh broken. Attended the setting of it by Dr. Whittredge. Our little Thomas is a little better but exceedingly troubled by a sore mouth, the effect of the fever.

September 1. Engaged through the day at my new house. Had the pipes for the cistern arranged & it covered. The bottom not being tight, took out the bricks and put in a quantity of the excavated earth over the mass of clay with

the expectation that the outward pressure when full of water may fill the cavities under the large flag stones and make it tight, or at least contribute toward that result against the time when a lower plato of the springs will afford an opportunity to complete the paving in lime & coating with Roman cement, with a fair prospect of success. Mother called and took Ma Chere & the twins on a ride A. M. Little Thos. not better than yesterday. Evg. spent at home.

September 2. 1st day. Attended mtg. A. M. A ride with Ma Chere H. P. M. prevented my attending in the afternoon. Called at Widow Arnold's and saw the old lady for the first time since the decease of her worthy husband. Her enfeebled appearance indicated no very long tarriance behind him. Little Thos. amends slowly. He is weak and worrying.

September 3. Spent the day principally at my new house & evg. at home.

September 4. Spent the day principally at the Academy where some alterations are making & my new house. Evg. at home. Removed the book case from the room where the Academy books were formerly in my father's to the Academy in the new room taken from the Hall.

September 5. Engaged through the day at the Academy and at my new house. The shed roof on the west side was put up and the masons have made a pretty fair beginning about the underpinning of the wood house. Tomorrow we shall set the parlor marbles, the castings for those fireplaces having at last arrived. Called Dr. Read for advice relative to an indisposition of my own, of 4 or 5 days standing.

September 6. Devoted the day to operations at the Academy & my new house, using a gig instead of walking on acc't of my indisposition. Evg. at home.

September 7. Spent most of the forenoon at home on acc't of my indisposition and the state of the weather. P. M. rode out to attend to my concerns at the house & the Academy. Evg. partly at the cg. house. My wife's nurse Patience Taber left us this evening, her term of engagement having expired, little Frank being six weeks old today.

September 8. Spent most of the day & evg. at the cg. house. Gave some attention to my house & the Academy.

September 9. 1st day. Attended meetings and called at Charles' Spent the rem. of the day & evg. at home. Bro. Benj. called.

IN EIGHTEEN TWENTY-SEVEN

Wherein the annalist continues his daily routine. His wife's parents come to visit him. The daughter of his neighbor, Alfred Gibbs, dies.

September 10. Spent the mg. at the cg. house & in riding with Ma Chere H. &c. P. M. at the new house, evg. at the cg. house.

September 11. Attended at the Institution for Savings and spent the rem. of the day principally at the cg. & new house. Went to the latter with Ma Chere H. Mr. Greenleaf, a mason sent to me by C. Coolidge, has been setting the furnace for warming the entry & house. Evg. at home.

September 12. Spent a considerable part of the day at my new house or in relation to it. Evg. at home. Mr. Emerson of the public High School called.

September 13. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & my new house with the exception of riding out to Bro. Benj.'s farm with Ma Chere H. Drank tea with the latter at father's. O. T. Greenleaf, a mason from Boston, finished the setting of my furnace for warming my entry and house today.

September 14. Spent the forenoon principally at the new house. Afternoon at an auction sale of engravings by J. & A. Bourne. Evg. called at father's.

September 15. Spent the day and evg. at the cg. house.

September 16. 1st day. Attended meetings and called to see mother who is suffering with her annual catarrh, and spent the rem. of the day principally at home. Rode with Sister P. & the children. Sister Sarah & Charles called with their children.

September 17. Engaged most of the day at home. Rode out of town on business relating to my new house before breakfast.

September 18. Gave some attention to domestic concerns A. M. Attended at the Institution for Savings P. M., & at my new house. Evg. at the cg. house.

September 19. Spent the forenoon at my new house observing the effects of the severe rainstorm, with a gale from the east. The water found its way in about the caps of several windows and the roof showed some small leaks. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

September 20. Gave most of my attention to my new house &c. Evg. at home.

September 21. Engaged A. M. in relation to library furniture. P. M. at home & at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

September 22. Spent part of the forenoon in relation to public concerns. P. M. at my new house & at Charles'. Drank tea & spent the evg. with Ma Chere H. at Sister Sarah's at their new house, to which they removed on the 18th instant.

September 23. 1st day. Attended Meeting A. M. Detained P. M. by a call with the children at father's & Andrew's unintentionally protracted too long. Rem. of the day, except a call at grandfather's & evg. at home. Thos. & Lydia Greene spent the latter with us.

September 24. Engaged A. M. at home on my meteorological observations. P. M. at the Bank and at the cg. house. Evg. at the latter place preparing letters to sundry places.

September 25. Engaged at the cg. house considerably through the day. Called at grandfather's with Ma Chere H. & attended her to Jos. Rotch's. Met with the Board of Investment of the Institution for Savings. Evg. at Benj.'s to tea where was Uncle Hazard and our more immediate connexions. The weather today admitted of the masons resuming work again on my woodhouse from which they had been interrupted for nearly a week.

September 26. Engaged A. M. principally at my new house. P. M. about home & at the cg. house. Evg. at home having the company of mother, Aunt Mary, Sister E., Benj., Susan, & Charles, Cousin Fr. & Anna & Mary C. Smith & Thos. & Lydia Greene to tea. Father is at business in Boston whither he went on sixth day last, and Sister Sarah being rather unwell.

September 27. Attended to concerns at the cg. house & new house A. M. Dined at mother's with Uncle Hazard &c which detained me most of the afternoon from the cg. house. Evg. at home.

September 28. Engaged at the cg. house much of the day. Gave some attention at my new house. Evg. at home with father & mother Prior who arrived a little after sunset.

September 29. Spent the day at the cg. house or in attention at my house or otherwise in relation to my house lot in treating with Abm. Russell. Evg. at home. Thos. Robeson spent it with us.

September 30. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at grandfather's with my father Prior. Evg. partly at father's. Our family relations &c have mostly called today to see my father and mother Prior. Our neighbor Alfred Gibbs had a great affliction in the death of a fine

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little girl of about 2 years, which took place today after an illness of 4 or 5 days.

Wherein the annalist tells of the launch of a new ship, of the progress at his new house, of his father-in-law's illness, of his trip to Boston to hear a law-suit, and of how he got to Boston a week early and decided to stay as it would take too long to go home and come back again.

October 1, 1827. Occupied A. M. at the cg. house. P. M. there, at the Bank, & at the launch of the new ship which we have been building for Capt. Joy. Evg. principally at home. Ed. Wing & wife spent it with us & T. Robeson called. The launch took place about 5 o'clock, was a very fine one and the ship was alongside of the wharf about 6 o'clock.

October 2. Occupied most of the day at the cg. house. P. M. in writing and relating to lands formerly designed to be appropriated as a street eastward of my new house. Evg. partly spent at Abm. Russell's in completing the deeds &c. Called at Charles' & Mother's & spent an hour at the cg. house.

October 3. Spent the forenoon principally at home. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Benj. & Andrew called.

October 4. Spent a considerable part of the morning at my new house; raised the roof of the wood house, the walls having been completed three days ago, but the weather since having been rainy it was not covered. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

October 5. Engaged A. M. mostly at the counting house. P. M. attended my wife & her mother to see our new house. Evg. at home. My father spent it with us. My father Prior has been confined to the house for several days with rheumatism in his left shoulder.

October 6.—Engaged most of the day at the cg. house. Made several calls at my new house, the castings of the chamber fireplaces having at last arrived though of very indifferent quality and correspondence of some of the parts, and with very blameable mistakes in some of them. Evg. at home till 9 o'clock, afterwards at the cg. house.

October 7. 1st day. Attended meetings and called with Ma Chere H. at Sister Anna's & Susan's. Evg. & the rem. of the day at home. Father Prior's rheumatic affliction rather better but not sufficiently so to allow him to go out.

October 8 Engaged through the day in relation to the pending law suit in Boston to come before the Circuit Court next week. Evg. to several objects of family concern & at home. My wife's father had today a severe chill, followed by fever so as to threaten to make him a house keeper for some time.

October 9. Engaged part of the day at the taking of depositions relating to the Thos. Dickason, Fish Patent trusses &c. Attended at the Institution for Savings and was several times at my new house where a beginning was made in painting the third story & a recommencement in plastering after a long delay in waiting for the castings for the fireplaces. Evg. partly at the cg. house. Father Prior has remained in his room but has been pretty comfortable today.

October 10 Devoted most of the day to operations at my new house. Father Prior escaped a chill today but remained in his room.

October 11. Engaged A. M. at my new house. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

October 12. Occupied most of the day at my house. Evg. at the cg. house &c. My mother Prior & Ma Chere H. took tea at father's.

October 13. Engaged A. M. at the c. g. house & in accompanying Ma Chere H. to sundry places. P. M. mostly spent at my new house. Evg. at home. Had the company of Nancy James of Phila., Lucy Hartshorn of Shrewsbury, and Sarah Wing to tea. The library chimney piece was completed today, which is the last of the marbles. The kitchen was primed, & the nursery finished plastering and the wood house roof completed.

October 14. 1st day. Attended meetings and made some arrangements for leaving here tomorrow for Boston to attend the defense of the suit bro't by S. A. Welles against the owners of the Thos. Dickason. Jas. & Sarah & Eliz. Arnold called, to see Father & mother Prior, the former yet a house keeper with rheumatism.

BOSTON, October 15. In pursuance of my design of attending the Circuit Court in this city I parted with my family about 8 o'clock in the accommodation stage, through Bridgewater. We had a full stage at starting and kept the same company through, among which were Cousins Fr. & Eliza Rotch, L. Williams, J. & Paul Barney & his wife. Dined at Whitney's in East Bridgewater & arrived about sunset in this city. I stopped with Cousin Frank at the Marlborough Hotel but as we could

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have only a room in the 4th story, I came to the Exchange Coffee House where I found a comfortable room on the second floor. Called in the evg. at Wm. Sullivan's office, from whom I learned that my case would not come on before this day week, so that I should have been saved several days absence if I had waited for a letter from my counsel. But as I must use three days on the road to have three days at home I shall not decide to return immediately.

October 16. Spent the day in attending the public sale of wool at the new market hall, and in walking about the city. Called at J. Bradle's. Called at the Marlborough to see my bro. Benj., who arrived today, but did not see him.

October 17. Devoted this day to the exhibition & exercises of the anniversary of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society at Brighton where I was taken by my ready friend, J. P. Bradlee & his friend, Mr. Niles with Hector Coffin of Phila., in one of their light double carriages. We missed the ploughing match but were fully gratified in the other objects of interest. The most novel & interesting to me was the dinner with the Society at which were probably pressing 300 or 400 including many of the most eminent men of the state. It was a hearty social meeting, and appeared to be more enjoyed for its friendly interchange of civilities than for the good things with which the tables were abundantly supplied. The toasts & sentiments were sufficiently exhilarating without much additional stimulus from the spirit of the grape. I was introduced to Richard Sullivan, John O. Gray, the president of the Society, John Lowell who gave a very appropriate address before the dinner & presided at the latter with much ameniation and propriety. Arrived in town about dusk. After tea at my lodgings, I spent the evg. at the Athenaeum.

October 18. Made several calls at furniture warehouses &c, and spent a good deal of time at an auction sale of furniture & fancy articles. Called at one or two places on business & spent the evg. principally in writing to my wife & others.

October 19. Spent the morning in buying carpets &c. Called at the Court House & at C. Coolidge's. P. M. visited the marine railway and the north part of the city and called on several persons on acc't. of business. Evg. attended meeting at the Old South, and spent the rem. of it in writing to New Bedford to go by my bro. Benj., who returns tomorrow.

October 20. Took the stage for Salem at 9 o'clk where I arrived about 11 o'clk. Dined with my Uncle Wm. Dean and returned in the afternoon, & retired to bed, being considerably indisposed with pain in my head & sore throat.

October 21. 1st day. After rather an uncomfortable night, I found myself somewhat better, though with a very sore throat. By appointment I attended meeting & dined with Josiah Bradlee, at Chauncey Place. Sermon A. M. by Mr. Frothingham, P. M. by Mr. Pierpont. Remained at home during the evg. & retired early to bed.

Wherein the annalist tells of the winning of a law suit at Boston, and of his return homeward in the stage. His wife's father is "electrified" by Timothy Delano to cure his rheumatism, and the Priors leave for home after their visit.

BOSTON, October 22, 1827. Attended the Circuit Court at the opening. A case preceded mine, which being postponed to give time for procuring testimony, mine was brought forward. But before any considerable progress was made the Court was adjourned till tomorrow morning to give the Plaintiff S. A. Welles time to procure his witnesses. P. M. made a few small purchases and remained at home through an evg. of stormy weather without. Gen'l B. Lincoln called towards the close of the evg., he designing to return home tomorrow.

October 23. Went into Court this morning to see the result of my case or rather to watch the course of the proceedings. Judge Storey came and examined Welles' patent & model previous to the opening of the court for business. When called to business it appeared that the objections which presented themselves to the judge as to the solidity of the patent as it regarded our infringement in using the apparatus obtained for New York after the plan patented by Preserved Fish, were not removed and the confidence of the plaintiff, it soon after proved, was gone and they abandoned the prosecution by submitting to a non-suit with costs. Thus terminated this unpleasant business which we had tried so earnestly and promptly to settle out of court by making every concession in our power, in the defeat of the palintiff. Spent the morning in accomplishing sundry small omitted items of business for myself & others. P. M. in making inquiries & purchases. And in the evg. called at Josiah Bradlee's, but finding him out spent the rem. of

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the evg. at Jos. P. Bradlee's. Paid my bill & retired, designing to take the stage for New Bedford in the mg., $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o'clk.

NEW BEDFORD, October 24. Left Boston about 7 o'clk this morning, before breakfasting with the expectation that the stage would stop at a suitable time on the road for that meal. But in this I was mistaken and was obliged to secure a cup of coffee while the mail was examined at Quincy, and to finish a piece of ginger bread & cheese in the carriage. Dined at Middleborough (Sampson's) and reached home about 5 o'clk, where I found all well except Ma Chere H. who is recovering from a cold & her parents who are indisposed, father with rheumatism and mother with a bad cold & cough, though not confined to the house. Evg. spent at home except calling at father's and the cg. room.

October 25. Spent a considerable part of the day at my new house. I find the plasterers likely to finish very nearly this week, all except the cellar. Evg. at home. T. Delano called and electrified Ma Chere H. for a severe cold and Father Prior for the rheumatism.

October 26. Spent most of the forenoon at my new house, laying out the plan of the garden &c. P. M. attended the quarterly termination of the High School. Evg. at home. Mr Chere H. quite sick with her cold. Mother Prior and Sister Phebe also afflicted with colds, that of the latter not very severe. Tim'y. Delano called to give father Prior another electrical prescription.

October 27. Spent most of the mg. at my new house. Called with father Prior at Friend Mary Arnold's. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Timothy called again to electrify my father Prior.

October 28. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called to see grandfather and at father's. Evg. at home. Andrew & Anna, Benj. & Susan with several of their children & Uncle & Aunt Rotch, Father & Mother called to see my father & mother Prior who think of leaving us on 3rd day next. T. Delano came to give another operation of electricity.

October 29. Spent the forenoon at the new house and in attention to or examination of some articles of Fur'n. bo't. & re'd (furniture bought and received—Ed.) today, (carpets) from Boston. P. M. rode with my father Prior to Bro. Benj's farm &c and devoted the rem. of the afternoon & evg. to objects connected with the contemplated departure of my wife's par-

ents for their home tomorrow. My father & mother & C. W. Morgan called to make their parting visits to the former.

October 30. Our revered guests, my wife's parents, left us this morning for Newport to take the Steam Boat for New York. My time has been divided between the new house and the cg. house. Evg. at the store engaged with others in securing the building & goods from the rain which flowed in through the roof, the old covering of which has been removed to be replaced with lime. A laborious & exposing job. The violence of the wind & storm makes us believe that the steamboat will not have attempted to leave Newport harbor.

October 31. Spent the mg. partly at the new house. Rem. of the day & evg. at the cg. house. Begun to dig my potatoes yesterday. The masons today have finished plastering my house except part of the cellar.

November 1. 1827. Forenoon spent at the cg. house. P. M. at the new house &c. Evg at a meeting of the School Comm'ee at J. A. Parker's.

November 2. Spent the forenoon at the cg. house &c. P. M. went with Thos. A. Greene to visit the Town School in the Sixth School District. Evg. at home.

November 3. Occupied most of the day & Evg. at the cg. house. Rode a short distance with Ma Chere & little Mary on business for the former.

November 4. 1st day. Attended meetings; spent an hour or two at father's. Father & mother both unwell.

November 5. Spent the day principally at the new house. Evg at the first meeting of the Reading Society for the season at Thos. A. Greene's, Ma Chere accompanying me.

November 6. Attended at the Institution for Savings and devoted the rest of the day principally to objects connected with my building, garden, &c. Evg. at home.

November 7. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Evg also there. The weather is very stormy & cold, some snow fallen.

November 8. Forenoon partly at the cg. house. P. M. devoted to company. R. Joy & wife, Jacob Justice & Thos. Fisher, of Phila. Bro. Andrew & Benjamin & Thos. Robeson, Sister Anna & Thos & L. Greene at tea.

IN EIGHTEEN TWENTY-SEVEN

Wherein the annalist tells of the daily routine, of the fires he has to tend at his new house, and of the sickness of his Little Thomas.

November 10, 1827. Spent the forenoon & latter part of the evg. at the cg. house. P. M. at my new house & in taking measures for securing my vegetables from the severe weather. Mercury at 23 at the time of this writing.

November 11. 1st day. Attended meetings and called at father's & grandfather's & C. W. Morgan's. Rem. of the day & evg. at home.

November 12. Spent the day in relation to objects of domestic utility and to operations at my new house. Evg. at Sister Anna's where were Benj. & Hannah Russell & a small family party, & Cousin Thos. Fisher.

November 13. Engaged partly at the cg. house & through the day & evg. made several calls at my house. The weather stormy. My work has been arrested in the new garden since this day week on acc't of the frost & rain.

November 14. Spent the morning partly at the cg. house. P. M. at my new house taking precautionary measures by making an experiment of anthracite coal fire in my furnace to guard against the early cold weather and to dissipate the remaining moisture of the plastering for which the weather for a week or two past has been very unfavorable. The fire appeared to do well. Evg. at home.

November 15. Engaged during a considerable part of the day in relation to our new house, the rem. spent at the cg. house. Evg. at a small party of Cousin Anna Rotch's. I got in my stock of coal for my furnace today (4 tons.) Have a fire there today & part of yesterday, the weather continuing cold & slightly freezing much of the day, in the shade. The remaining two outside doors were hung today so that I shall not have much fear of frost.

November 16. Spent the mg. at the cg. house &c. P. M. mostly about my new house. Evg. at C. W. Morgan's where were a small company.

November 17. Occupied A. M. about home, the new home &c. Called with Ma Chere H. at grandfather's to see Lydia Scott who is there from Fall River. With my Sister Lydia is little daughter Mary.

November 18. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at grandfather's, father's, & Benj.'s. Father thrown

from his seat by a fall of his horse in riding, but not much hurt. Benj. confined to his bed mostly yesterday & today. Our little Mary & Edw. called with their mother & spent the afternoon at their grandfather's. The fine new ship Rodman went into the stream.

November 19. Spent the forenoon at the Public High School in the examination of applicants for admission. P. M. at the cg. house, Bank & my new house. Evg. at the Reading Society at C. W. Morgan's with Ma Chere H. called a few minutes at father's and Benj.'s, the latter better.

November 20. Spent part of the forenoon and evg. at the cg. house. Attended at the Institution for Savings & devoted the rem. of the day principally to my new house & operations there.

November 21. Engaged about home much of the forenoon. Afterward at the cg. house & my new house. Most of the afternoon & the evg. spent at the cg. house. Visited my new house as usual late in the evg. to see that the fire in the furnace was safe. The fuel being Lehigh Coal there appears to be no risk in leaving the fire unextinguished in such an apparatus.

November 22. Engaged much of the forenoon about home. Little Thomas quite ill last night so that I sat up about $\frac{1}{2}$ the night and rose very early to consult Dr. Read about him. P. M. at the cg. house adjusting my business with the masons who built my shed & wood house & plastered my house. Evg. at home except twice going to see the fire at the new house and calling to see father who is much better this evg.

November 23. Spent the forenoon at the semi-annual meeting of the Trustees of the Academy. P. M. at the cg. house & my new house. Evg. at home. Our little Thomas continues quite sick but we hope that his symptoms are somewhat mitigated. Mother called.

November 24. Spent the morning in attending the departure of Capt. Joy & the pilot &c to join his ship the Rodman, quite new and built expressly for him, and commence his voyage. Rem. of the A. M. at the cg. house & at the new house. Evg. at home except my usual visit to see to the fire at the new house. Our little Thomas appeared considerably better this afternoon & evg.

November 25. 1st day. Attended meetings, called at Charles' and father's, and made several visits to my house to see to the fire. Evg. at home.

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November 26. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Made two or three calls at my new house where the doors of the 1st story are in the course of hanging. Evg. at home. Little Thomas improves but very slowly, if at all. He has appeared less strong & free from pain than yesterday. Little Mary also threatened with a painful local affection.

November 27. Spent the forenoon after disposing of the domestic claims on my attention which at this season of short days takes up a considerable part, at the cg. house. There I rec'd a call from E. T. Ellicott & Nath. Ellicott of Baltimore and agreed to act as agent of the Avalon Copper Man'f'y., in selling their copper sheathing and copper bolts in the market. Dined and spent the afternoon with the two young men at father's. The bro. & sister of Nath'l. & wife of Evan did not accompany them, it being late ascertained that they were in town. Attended the Inst. for Savings and except an hour at my new house to see to the fires &c. passed the evg. at home.

November 28, 1827. Spent the forenoon and much of the afternoon at my house or in business relating to it. Attended a while at the cg. house & spent the evg. at home. Our children appear better today, but father is again unwell.

November 29. Spent the forenoon in attention to domestic concerns A. M. partly at the new house & cg. house &c. Evg. at home.

November 30. The weather being very rainy and having some accounts & documents to examine, I have remained at home through the day.

December 1. Engaged A. M. about home & in attention to objects connected with my building operations. P. M. at my new house. Evg. at the cg. house.

December 2. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called with Ma Chere H. at friend Arnold's and with the twins at father's, and except making several visits to see to the fire at the new house, on one of which Ma Chere H. bore me company, the rem. of the day & evg. has been passed at home.

December 3. Spent the forenoon principally at the cg. house, having given attention before breakfast to operations about my new house—viz. forming the ground immediately contiguous, the weather having been until today very unfavorable on acc't. of the frost & rain for the last two weeks so that entire suspension of work was induced in the garden &c. and all hope of doing more to it is pretty much aban-

doned. Succeeded this afternoon in getting the well stone in its place and the pump log restored to its position, a former attempt some months since having been defeated by the breaking of the stone when entirely prepared, in the act of putting it over the well. Evg. met with the Reading Society at Wm. Swain's.

December 4. Spent much of the day at my new house. Had the well stone properly placed and the stones for the cellar doors adjusted, and earth carted to give the proper form to the ground in the rear of the house. Spent some time at the cg. house & attended at the Institution for Savings. Had Lydia Barney and a few of our family as company at tea.

December 5. Spent most of the morning at my new house. Afternoon at the counting house. Evg. at home. Laboring under a considerable oppression from a cold.

December 6. My cold continuing quite severe I confined myself to the house through the day and spent the time principally in reading.

December 7. My cold continuing to be oppressive I remained at home occupied with accounts, having my books brought from the cg. house.

December 8. Spent the forenoon at the new house & rain induced me to pass the afternoon at home. The carpenters engaged in putting the locks &c on the doors, expecting to make a final termination of their job on the house by night, excepting the floor of one compartment of the cellar and some small jobs in the basement story.

December 9. 1st day. The weather being very damp and unpleasant I judged it most prudent not to expose myself to it by going out & therefore remained at home through the day. Thos. A. Greene spent the evg. with us.

December 10. Spent much of the day in attending to sundry matters relating to the new house. Evg. at home.

December 11. Spent most of the day at my new house or in relation to it. Evg. at the cg. house.

December 12. Divided the day between my new house and the cg. house. Took mother to see the former, the carpenters having left it, about complete in their work. Evg. at a small party at Dr. Read's.

December 13. A. M. at the cg. house. P. M. at the new house or in attention relating to it. Evg. at home. Our children, Edw. & Mary drank tea with their cousin Emily Morgan, who had a party of her cousins, it being her 6th birthday.

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December 14. Spent most of the day at my new house. Had the company of father & mother, our sisters & bro's. at tea.

December 15. Occupied during the day at and in relation to my new house. The carpenters have taken final leave, except by removing their tools &c. The cellar and some unforeseen incidental jobs remain. The arrangement for drawing water from the well into the sink of the 1st story was completed today & the kitchen &c painted.

Wherein the annalist tells of his mother's being disowned by the monthly meeting and his reactions thereto. Also he writes in a truly humble fashion on the passing of the old year and the coming of the new, and at the time he is to remove to his new house he writes what it meant to change in those days.

December 16, 1827. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called to see grandfather whose 93d birthday occurred yesterday. He appeared as well as for the last nine months & cheerful. Rem. of the day and evg. except a call at the new house, spent at home.

December 17. Occupied through the day at my new house where Ma Chere H. also spent part of the morning in attending to the business of carpet making. Evg. with Ma H. at a small party at Sarah Arnold's.

December 18. Devoted most of the day to concerns at my new house. Attended at the Institution for Savings and had a meet'g of the School Comm'ee at my house this evg.

December 19 Having increased my cold by exposure to the thawing snow of yesterday, I have remained at home most of the day.

December 20. Spent the forenoon partly at my new house. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

December 21. Made a visit at my new house and spent some time at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Sister Phebe at Mary Flemming's Soiree.

December 22. Spent some time in attention at the new house & some at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Had the company of Thos. & Lydia Greene to tea.

December 23. 1st day. The weather being cold and my indisposition continuing to require care, I have confined myself to the house today.

December 24. Spent part of the forenoon at the new house & provision to protect us against the cold during our temporary stay in

this house. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. had the Reading Society with us.

December 25. Engaged at my new house & cg. house. Evg. at home.

December 26. Spent the day at the cg. house evg. at home.

December 27. Spent the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

December 28. Spent the day about home with the exception of an hour or two at the cg. house & at my new house. Evg. at Sister Anna's soiree.

December 29. Principally occupied at the cg. house &c. Gave some attention at my new house. Evg. at home. Salted my pork &c. quantity about 150 lbs. Put to this $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds salt peter, about 3 lbs. salt, rubbed on, $\frac{1}{8}$ gal. molasses, pickle to be added later.

December 30. 1st day. My mother having been disowned by the monthly meeting on 5th day last, for non-attendance of meetings for a year or two past, a measure I think highly unjustifiable, I did not feel like meeting with the narrow minded members of the mtg., to give them no harsher epithet, and therefore remained at home through the day and evg., as did Ma Chere H. & Sister Phebe for similar reasons.

December 31. Engaged through the day on a communication to a comm'n of the legislature on a public grievance. Met the Reading Society at Thos. Greene's. Thus ends my record for the year 1827. May gratitude fill my heart towards the author of all good for the blessings by which it has been marked.

1828.

January 1. Engaged A. M. in preparing my meteorological abstract. Attended at the Institution for Savings and dined and spent the evg. at Andrew's where was a small family party. May the year now commenced be marked by some usefulness to others in promoting their happiness and in securing my own by a progressive advancement in Knowledge and Virtue.

January 2. Gave some attention at my new house A. M. Carpenters finished the barn &c. P. M. mostly at the cg. house occupied with affairs of the Institution for Savings as sec'y for the Board of Investment, preparatory to the semi-annual meeting.

January 3. Engaged most of the day at the cg. house. Evg. at a meeting of the Trustees of the New Bedford Institution for Savings.

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January 4. Principally engaged at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. & Sister Phebe at Aunt Mary's soiree. My cold detained me. Put Pickle to my hams.

January 5. Engaged most of the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. and I visited the new house.

January 6. 1st day. Spent the day at home for my reasons mentioned this day week. Lydia Greene drank tea and spent the evg. with us.

January 7. Attended the meeting of the Reading Society at C. W. Morgan's & spent the day partly at the cg. house & at home & at the new house.

January 8. Engaged part of the morning in completing my general abstract of meteorological observations up to the end of last year. Attended at the Institution for Savings, and spent the afternoon at my new house or in relation to operations there, which are now nearly at an end.

January 9. Spent the forenoon at the cg. room &c. P. M. spent mostly at or in relation to my new house. Walked on the bridge with Ma Chere H. and the twins.

January 10. Spent the forenoon in attending to some domestic concerns, and visited my new house. P. M. mostly at home making some arrangements for hanging bells &c. Evg. at a party at Sister Sarah's.

January 11. Spent some time at the cg. house & more at my new house. The front fence put up today. Evg. at home.

January 12. Devoted much of the day to operations at my new house, preparing for a drain from the barn yard, of logs.

January 13. 1st day. Spent the day at home, my disinclination still continuing to attend my accustomed meeting and no other here being in accordance with my taste & feelings. I regret that I cannot without too much violence to my feelings conform to a practice which I think salutary both in a public and private point of view. My time has been principally occupied in writing. Sister Anna spent the evg. with us & Andrew came also at a late hour.

January 14. Devoted most of the day to the business at my new house, preparatory to removing there this week if the weather should be favorable. Evg. at a meeting of the members of the New Bedford Institution for Savings.

January 15. Spent most of the day in business at the new house or in relation to it. Attended a meet-

ing of the trustees of the New Bedford Institution for Savings and at the Board of Investment. Evg. at home where a meeting of the School Comm'ee was notified to assemble but no one came except J. Congdon.

January 16. Devoted my time to promoting preparations for removing furniture &c. tomorrow & the day following, weather permitting. Evg. principally at home. An hour spent at the cg. house. Called at father's.

January 17. A light fall of snow yesterday, succeeded by rain which congealed as it fell, gave an opportunity of moving the bulky articles of our furniture to the new house on runners, which we used to good advantage till noon, by which time it was nearly all dissolved. Removed several loads on wheels P. M. and the books of our library. Spent the evg. with Sister P. at Anna Arnold's party. We expect to leave this dwelling tomorrow. My notes hereafter will be made at another.

Eight years have nearly elapsed since this house has afforded us a home, the first that I could properly call my own, during which time we have experienced a large share of the blessings of life with some of its calamities. As in all things we have especially in this cause for gratitude, that so considerable a portion of our lives should have been marked with so few painful ailments. May this sentiment toward the beneficent author of life and all its blessings pervade our minds, and occasion so wise and discreet an entrance on the new era now commencing as to secure his favour expressed in the approving voice of our consciences, compared with which, all other applause is but as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal.

January 19, 1828. We continued yesterday the business of removal and by evening had all the articles of most importance and value, so that about an hour after sunset the family except one who remained through the evg., was taken up. The elder children spent the day at their grandfather's, Thomas & the infant remaining at home. Made some progress through the evg. in reducing things to order. This day some other things were brought up but the afternoon being rainy discontinued it, and found enough within doors of other duties so that we dined at Sister Sarah's and returned directly after. I spent an hour at the cg. room.

January 20. 1st day. Spent the day mostly at home. Attended meeting in the afternoon and called at grandfather's in the evg.

IN EIGHTEEN TWENTY-SEVEN

January 21. Spent the day in attending to sundry things relating to our settlement in our new house, which requires the completion of sundry little jobs not hitherto and some not yet thought of before we shall enjoy its full benefits.

January 22. Except an hour at the cg. house & time at the Institution for Savings my attention has been given to objects of family comfort & convenience about the new house. Drank tea with Ma Chere H. at Sister Sarah's.

January 23. Engaged most of the day about home. Uncle Dean drank tea with us.

January 24. The carpenters who have been hanging bells & doing sundry jobs about the house finished and left today. I spent more time at my cg. house business than on any day since our removal. Evg. attended Dr. Gay's first lecture on Chemistry, delivered quite in our neighborhood, in the independent meeting house.

January 26. Devoted most of the day & evg. to removing some effects of the late severe frost at my former residence. Had the entry floor cloth put down. E. Rodman 3d. spent the afternoon with our children.

January 27. 1st day. Attended mtg. P. M. and spent the rest of the day at home. Cousin Eliza and Fr. Rotch called.

January 28. Occupied through the day about home and at my old house making things more commodious about the one and preparing to fit the other for occupancy by another. Sister E. drank tea with us and accompanied our trio to the mtg. of the Reading Society at Wm. Nye's.

January 29. Business of a domestic nature relating to our present and late residences has taken up my time today except my regular attendance on this day of the week at the office of the Institution for Savings, and a short time passed at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Called late at C. W. Morgan's where Sister Phebe took tea.

January 30. Occupied about home and at the store preparing articles for the Boston waggon till late dinner hour. P. M. engaged about home until towards evg. when I called at Uncle William's to sympathize in the affliction of which that is the scene, in consequence of the sudden death of my aunt about 3 o'clk. this morning. She had on 2nd day about noon a recurrence of the disorders with which she has several times been attacked. The pain was somewhat mitigated by the evg. of that day so as to allow her, with the operation of anodynes, to repose consid-

erably, though without a removal of the immediate cause of her illness. Hopes however were entertained through yesterday that relief would be obtained. But in the course of the evg. a change indicative of approaching dissolution was observed, and she expired about the time before mentioned. Her loss will be severely felt, and will render my uncle's home desolate indeed. But the circumspect and sincere, though somewhat solitary path (as regards her family connections), which she has followed, in reference to the most important of human interests, leaves no room to doubt that she is a great gainer by the change.

By previous appointment, I was obliged, contrary to my inclination, to spend the evg. on business connected with the Institution for Savings.

January 31. Spent the mg. about home and called with Ma Chere H. & sister at my bereaved uncle's. P. M. spent some time at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Called at father's, Benj.'s, & Andrew's. Sister Susan quite ill again, so as to excite some apprehension for her. Sister P. spent the afternoon at Andrew's.

Wherein the annalist tells of numerous small duties about the home, and of the funeral of his Aunt Rotch

February 1, 1828. Spent the morning about home and in a call at Uncle William's P. M. visited my old house, the cleaning of which is about completed, and the necessary repairs by the carpenters nearly finished. Devoted the rem. to my cg. house duties which have been superceded of late by the cares and claims on my time incident to removing &c. Evg. at home. Whiting salted my beef yesterday; quantity about 180 lbs.

February 2. Spent a considerable part of the day & ev. at the cg. house. Called at Uncle William's after tea for an hour or two.

February 3, 1st day. Attended meetings, & called at grandfather's to see him and Sister Lydia who is here from Fall River having come yesterday with Micah on acc't of the decease of my aunt Rotch. Called also at father's. Heard for the first time Joseph Davis preach. He has spoken a few times before.

February 4. Occupied most of the day & evg. at the cg. house. Called P. M. with Ma Chere H. at Uncle William's.

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February 5. Spent most of the day about home and at the Inst. for Savings. P. M. attended to some objects connected with my meteo'l. observ'ns & the furniture of my observatory. Placed in it a 3½ feet refracting telescope owned by my Sister Eliza, and in a few days I expect to have it fitted for the convenient gratification of a rational curiosity in observing the heavenly bodies or objects of local interest in the extended horizon of this commanding position. Called to see Sister Lydia.

February 6. Spent most of the day & evg. at the cg. house & wharf, at the latter place taking an acc't of the Iris' cargo or rather my proportion of it. Sister Lydia spent a few hours here and drank tea with us, and returned to grandfather's soon after. The demise of my aunt Rotch affects her family arrangements by depriving her of the services and company of Lydia Scott, who has consented to take the charge of my Uncle's domestic establishment.

February 7. Spent a considerable part of the day at the cg. house. Evg. there also. Called at Uncle William's. The time of the interment is fixed at 3 o'clk. tomorrow.

February 8. Attended to business at the cg. house A. M. Afternoon attended the funeral of my aunt Elizabeth Rotch. The number of persons who thus testified their high respect for the dec'd. was unusually large. Deborah Otis made a prayer on the occasion, besides which there was no oral communication. This was not to be regretted for the impressive circumstances of the case imparted a deep solemnity to the scene which in the serious reflections suggested was perhaps more salutary than any discourse could be expected to be. Returned home and spent the rem. of the afternoon & evg. with my family &c.

February 9. Occupied through the forenoon directing some small jobs of the carpenters. William Reed laid some curbing stones in front of our house towards making ingress and egress less unpleasant from depth of mud which the moderate weather has caused in this neighborhood. Evg. devoted to completing the arrangements for bathing, a luxury which we can now enjoy with great facility.

February 10. 1st day. Attended meetings and called at grandfather's. Rem. of the day & evg. at home.

February 11. Engaged most of the day about home. Evg. attended a meeting of the New Bedford Institution for Savings. Called at father's, and with Ma Chere was at our old establishment.

February 12. Occupied about home through the forenoon. Attended at the Institution for Savings. Spent part of the afternoon at the cg. house. Evg. at home where the Reading Society met.

February 13. Busied about home a considerable part of the forenoon. The carpenters and painters engaged in their last small jobs. P. M. at the office of the Treas. of the Institution for Savings.

February 14. Spent the day & evg. principally at the cg. room. Called to see my Uncle William & Cousin Thomas Rotch. Sister Eliza drank tea with us.

February 16. Spent the day at the cg. house and dined and drank tea at father's to avoid the walk home lest inconveniences should result to a slight injury of the leg by producing inflammation. The ship Winslow was hauled out of water today at Barstons & Ruggles yard on ways laid for the purpose by means of 6 capstans & falls without injury or accident. One of our family assistants was taken unwell with spasms which made her wish to be sent home, which was done yesterday.

February 17. 1st day. Attended meeting A. M. P. M. detained inadvertently by company. Otherwise passed the time at home. Sister E. drank tea with us & Sister P. at Andrew's. Charles & his children & Andrew & Anna & little Martha were here in the course of the afternoon.

February 18. Spent the forenoon at the cg. house. Had Capt. Owen Chase & Capt. Coleman to dine with us. Again at the cg. house & evg. at Robert Smith's to meet the Reading Society.

February 19. Spent a considerable part of the day at the cg. house & in relation to the business of the Winslow. Concluded to have 14 feet put into her length. Attended at the Inst. for Savings, and spent the evg. at C. W. Morgan's.

February 20. Engaged considerably at the cg. house &c. Evg. at home. Hannah Mary drank tea with us.

February 21. Spent the day principally at the cg. house & dined at father's to avoid the walk home in the rain. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture and at a mtg. of the School Comm'ee at Mr. Dewey's. Sent hams to smoke.

February 22. Spent part of the day at the cg. house though not to much purpose as I had two of my little prattlers through the afternoon. Evg. at home. Observed the planet Saturn with his splendid

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ring from my observatory, as did Sister Eliza and most of the family.

February 23. Spent most of the morning in domestic duties. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

February 24. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at father's, grandfather's, Andrew's, Charles',. Evg. at home. Read some eloquent sermons by Lyman Beecher on Intemperance.

February 25. Spent most of the morning about home and in riding a short distance in the sleigh with the children. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at the chemical lecture.

February 26. Spent the morning principally at the cg. house. Had a small family party at tea.

February 27. Spent the day at the cg. house. Evg. at C. W. Morgan's with Ma Chere H. where was a family party, cousins Fr. & Anna Rotch being about to sail for England on a visit to their relations, viz. in the ship Napoleon from New York for Liverpool on the 8th. prox.

February 28. Paid some attention to the Academy and spent most of the day at the cg. house. Evg. except attending Dr. Gay's lecture, at home.

February 29. Spent the evg. at home after close application through the day at the cg. house.

March 1, 1828. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Evg. at the meeting of the Reading Society, the last for the season, at Lydia Greene's. Finished the work which has engaged our attention, Brown's Lectures in Moral Philosophy from which much pleasure and some profit has been derived. The eminently interesting subject is treated with great acuteness and power of analysis though not in the best style for a written composition, and many of his illustrations are very pleasing and happy, indicating a mind and imagination richly stored, and an excellent heart, glowing with the best affections of our nature.

March 2. 1st day. Except attending meetings I have passed the day at home, the weather having been unfavorable for calling on or receiving calls from any of our friends.

March 3. Engaged at the cg. house through the day. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture. To make a little variety for the children took Mary & Edmund to the store and let them afterward make a visit to their grandmother's. Called to take leave of cousins Fr. & Anna Rotch who take passage tomorrow for New York to embark for England. C. W. Morgan & Benj. go with them to the former place.

March 4. Spent the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Benj. & Chs. set off for New York today in company with Fr. & Anna Rotch & their eldest son, the latter to sail for England on the 8th in the packet ship Napoleon.

March 5. I have been principally engaged through the day at the cg. house &c. &c.

March 6. Occupied through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture. Sister Sarah drank tea with us & spent an hour after the lecture was over.

March 7. Engaged most of the day at the cg. house. Dined late and drank tea at father's. Sister P. at the former & Ma Chere H. at the latter meal. A particular pressure of business detained me from dinner much past the usual hour.

March 8. Occupied through the day with Counting House business. Evg. at home. Little Martha & Frek'k Robeson & Eliz. & Wm. Rodman visited our children this afternoon.

March 9. 1st day. Attended meetings and called at grandfather's, Jos. Rotch's & fathers. Cousin J. Rotch quite ill with inflammatory rheumatism. Evg. at home.

March 10. Rode to Smith Mills A. M. with Ma Chere H. Called to enquire after Cousin Jos. Rotch. Found him rather better. P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture & afterward an hour at the cg. house.

March 11. Spent most of the morning at home. Attended as usual at the Institution for Savings. P. M. at the cg. house. Drank tea & spent the evg. at Father's where were Anna Perry & her daughters & Thos. & Nath. Hathaway with Sisters Sarah & Anna.

March 12. Occupied most of the day and evg. with my accounts. Evg. principally at home.

March 13. Engaged at the cg. house through the day. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture.

March 14. Engaged through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at A. Robeson's with Ma Chere H. & sister to tea.

March 15. Spent the day at the cg. house and dined at father's to avoid a walk home through a deep snow and severe snow storm. Evg. at home.

March 16. 1st day. Attended meetings and called at father's & Charles'. David Coffin called about dark with his little granddaughter Sarah Barney. Elizabeth Briggs came this evg. to reside in our family.

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March 17. Rode to Smith Mills in the sleigh with Ma Chere H. and little Thomas. P. M. at the cg. room. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture. Also took Sister P. & Ed. & Mary a short ride after returning with Ma Chere H.

March 18. Except my usual attention at the Institution for Savings I have been occupied at the cg. house through the day & evg., dining and taking tea at father's to save time and avoid a disagreeable walk back and forth.

March 19. Spent the day at the cg. house. Dined again at father's. Evg. at home.

March 20. Engaged in the morning with J. Durfee in relation to our lightning rods, and with Geo. W. Shearman in regard to an engagement of his services. The rem. of the day spent at the cg. house, except the time occupied in attention to my nephews Wm. & Andrew Robeson, who dined with us. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture.

March 21. Spent the day principally in attention to business at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Ma Chere H. at Sister Anna's. The Maria arrived with a full cargo from the Pacific.

March 22. Spent the day principally at the cg. house, and also part of the evg. The ship Mercator arrived from the Pacific.

March 23. 1st day. Attended meetings and called at grandfather's, Jos. Rotch's (who is yet ill with rheumatism), Benj.'s, Andrew's & Charles'. Thomas & Lydia Greene called late in the evg. and finished it with us. Sister Phebe has a very bad cold & little Frank has one also.

March 24. This is my 36th anniversary which brings me to a stage of life which once appeared very remote. May the consciousness of waning youth stimulate to a worthy appropriation of its energies and indeed a more earnest exertion to improve my intellectual and moral character. Spent the day at the cg. House. Dined at father's to avoid an unpleasant walk in the rain &c. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture.

Spring returns and the annalist records various works that go on to make his estates sightly. The business affairs continue heavy; a funeral; a view of the heavens; the elections.

March 25, 1828. Spent the morning at the cg. house & Inst. for Savings. P. M. about the home and at the cg. house. Evg. had the company of my parents, Andrew & Anna, Chs. & Sarah, and T.

Robeson at tea. Observed from the observatory Saturn and his splendid ring, and late, about midnight, I observed with the telescope Jupiter and his satellites. Two of his belts were also visible.

March 26. Spent a considerable part of the day in some way or other relating to the coming election of town officers and their duties. Evg. at a caucus preliminary meeting of the inhabitants to hear a report of a comm'ee to nominate town officers.

March 27. Occupied A. M. at the cg. house &c. Afternoon there and at a meeting of the School Comm'ee at Chs. H. Warren's office. Evg. at the Chemical lecture.

March 28. Engaged through most of the day and evg. at the cg. house &c., &c. Dined and drank tea at father's to save time. The weather very warm. Mercury at 73 degrees Fahr. Several flocks of wild geese flew over.

March 29. Devoted this day principally to the examination as one of the Town's comm'ee on acc'ts. the accounts of the Town Treasurers, Chs. Russell & Silas Kempton, my colleagues. Also examined the acc'ts of the school committee. Evg. engaged in writing letters at home.

March 30. 1st day. Attended meetings and called in the evg. at grandfather's, father's, & Andrew's to enquire after their welfare. Grandfather rather better than some days past. Two of Andrew's children ill with scarlet fever or with symptoms of that character. Little Chs. Rotch also unwell. I dismissed our boy Abm. King to-day, for incompetency and disinclination for the duties of the place.

March 31. Spent the day principally in relation to the election of Town officers which took place this day. Called to see Grandfather. He had not been up today.

April 1. Spent some time at the cg. house A. M. P. M. at the Inst. for Savings, and riding to secure my complement of posts for fencing the lot south of me. Evg. principally at home.

April 2. Attended to giving directions to the carpenters for the fence came today to put up, and passed the rem. of the day & evg. at the cg. house. Ma Chere H. & Sister P. took tea at Sister Sarah's.

April 3. Engaged through the day at the cg. house. Evg. attended a meeting of the School Comm'ee. Drank tea at father's where also I breakfasted to save time. This is quarterly meeting day. I was so much engaged in examining my books for the past year that I did not attend.

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April 4. Occupied assiduously in my annual examinations &c. at the cg. house through the day & evg.

April 5. Spent the forenoon principally at home occupied in relation to my garden and grounds. P. M. partly at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

April 6. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at grandfather's and took the twins to visit their grandparents. Evg. at home.

April 7. Spent the forenoon at the town meeting for the completion of business unfinished at the previous meeting this day week. P. M. attended at the election of State officers, viz: Gov. & Senators, & spent the rem. of the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home, except making a short call at Charles'.

April 8. Spent the mg. at the cg. house. Attended at the Institution for Savings. Attended at the funeral service at A. D. Richmond's on acc't of the death of one of his twin infant sons about 2½ months old, who was named after A. Robeson. Evg. at home.

April 9. Occupied a considerable part of the day in attending the works going on about the garden & premises. The fence round the lot south of me completed and the lumber removed from the upper division of my house lot to be appropriated to a yard for grass & trees.

April 10. Engaged in attention to the work about my premises. Rode out to my grass and pasture lot.

Wherein the annalist writes of troubles taking care of the town poor, and of how his children came down one after another with scarlet fever.

April 11, 1828. Spent most of the day at the cg. house. Evg. at father's, where were Capt. J. Gardner, daughter and son-in-law, and a few others.

April 12. Occupied through the day in transplanting trees in my new garden.

April 13. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called on Jos. P. Smith's at Jos. Rotch's. Gave some attention to watering my trees. Evg. at home. Had a call from Benj. & Susan & Rebecca Wing.

April 14. Engaged for most of the day about my garden. Attended Dr. Gay's lecture in the evg.

April 15. Occupied at the cg. house most of the forenoon. Attended at the Institution for Savings and devoted the rem. of the day to transplanting shrubs and taking them from the garden at

my former residence. Attended a mtg. of the School Comm'ee at J. A. Parker's.

April 16. Devoted considerable time to operations about my house and garden. Spent part of the day at the cg. house & at the Inst. for Savings. Evg. at an adjourned meeting of the School Comm'ee at J. A. Parker's. Afterward called at father's.

April 17. Spent most of the morning at the cg. house. Had the company of Capt. Jared Gardner & my father to dine, the latter also at tea. Evg. at Dr. Gay's lecture.

April 18. Spent a considerable part of the day about the premises in relation to the work in the garden. Rem. at the cg. house.

April 19. Passed the forenoon principally at home making some alteration in the arrangement of the library. P. M. attended a Town Mtg. called for objects connected with the support of the poor, and to supply some deficiencies in the Town Officers, viz.: tithing men and others, which the meeting refused to supply. Rem. of the P. M. at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Our Ed., Mary & Thomas made a visit at their Aunt Morgan's.

April 20. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called to see Lydia Russell, and spent the rem. of the day & evg. at home.

April 21. Engaged most of the day in writing at home. Drank tea at father's and spent part of the evg. there.

April 22. Spent part of the mg. at the cg. house. Attended at the Institution for Savings. Directed some work about my sinks and attended an examination of Sidney Smith's school in Dist. No. 3. Evg. at home. Our little Thomas unwell with scarlet fever. Dr. Read called to see him yesterday. It is deemed prudent to keep the other children from him. The attack seems not severe.

April 23. Spent the morning at the examination of Clark's school in Dist. No. 4. P. M. at the cg. room and about home. Took Ed'd & Mary to the cg. house & their grandmother's.

April 24. A. M. at the cg. house. P. M. at the examination of L. M. K.'s school in Dist. No. 4. Evg. at home.

April 25. Forenoon at the cg. house. P. M. at the examination at the Public High School. Evg. walked to father's for a short call with Ma Chere H. Found my parents out and returned & passed the evg. at home. Rembrand Peale from Boston is in town for the pur-

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pose of taking my father & mother's portraits at the instance of my bro. Benj.

April 26. Forenoon spent principally at the cg. house. P. M. at the Town Meeting relating the provision for the poor. The comm'ee to whom was referred the subject, reported in favor of the purchase of a farm and erection of buildings suitable for the purpose and selling the present establishment. The views of the comm'ee were opposed by several individuals and finally rejected. But another comm'ee was raised to report at the adj't of the meeting, a suitable location and the price of the same, the quantity of land not to exceed 50 acres, and to make an estimate of the cost of the buildings. Evg. at home.

April 27. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called in the evg. at father's Benj's & Andrew's. Our Edmund has today symptoms of the scarlet fever from which little Thomas has just recovered. Had Dr. Read to visit him this evg..

April 28. Engaged a considerable part of the day at the cg. room. Evg. also partly spent there. My bro. Benj. and his wife, son and niece set off today for Phila.

April 29. Spent the morning about the wharf &c. P. M. at the cg. room. Evg. partly at C. Grinnell Jr.'s lodgings in relation to the better accommodation and more economical support of the poor of this town. Attended at the Inst. for Savings. Thos. & Lydia Greene spent the evg. with us.

April 30. Spent the forenoon about home and at the cg. house. P. M. went with Cornelius Grinnell Jr. & Dudley Davenport to view Pardon Potter's, John Peckham's and Perry Russell's farms as a committee of the Town to select a place to be proposed for the better location of the poor. Evg. partly at father's and partly at the cg. house.

May 1. Spent some time A. M. at the counting house after attending to the welfare of the family &c. Our little Mary was unwell last night and today is quite sick with decisive symptoms of scarlet fever, more severe in their character than were those of her brothers'. The rem. of the day spent in procuring & planting pear trees which I found in Fairhaven near the residence of the late J. Kempton, most of which were from the land belonging to that estate. All of which I succeeded in getting by the great kindness of John Taber who rode & walked miles to assist me. Evg. partly at the cg. house. Rem. at home aiding

in nursing the sick children, Thomas being yet afflicted and troublesome supposed to be occasioned by pain in his ears.

May 2. Engaged about home and at the counting house much of the day. Evg. at home. Our little Mary confined to her bed since yesterday morning with considerable fever. I passed an hour at father's in the room where father was sitting for his portrait.

May 3. Spent part of the day & evg. at the cg. house. Little Mary has passed a pretty comfortable day from the irritation incident to the fevers.

May 4, 1828. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called afterwards at father's and grandfather's. The latter seems to be stealing out of time. Father and mother, Sister Anna & Bro. Charles called as did also Cousin Sarah Arnold & Elizabeth to enquire after little Mary, who is better today, having amused herself sitting up in bed much of the time.

May 5. Spent the forenoon till 10 o'clk and from 5 P. M. till dark at the High School examining candidates for admission. Evg. attended to sundry things connected with gardening and with Sister Phebe's expected departure tomorrow for New York. Our little Mary appears to mend a little.

May 6. Attended at the Institution for Savings and divided the day between the cg. house and home occupations. Sister Phebe left us this morning for Newport to take passage in the Steam Packet Chancellor Livingston, Cap'n. Chas. Coggeshall, for New York, under the protection of the Rev. Sylvester Holmes. Evg. at home, our invalid children still requiring considerable attention.

May 7. Forenoon about home and at the cg. house. P. M. at the female Public School in Dist. No. 4., under the charge of Miss Burt. Evg. at home.

May 8. Engaged about home and at the cg. house. At the latter place in the evg.

May 9. Except some time given to an appointment concerning the poor of the town, my time has been principally spent in Cg. house duties.

May 10. At home through the day. Unwell with sore throat & pain in my head.

May 11. 1st day. Confined to the house this day also. Throat yet much affected.

May 12. (This note made May 19.) Rode into the country a mile or two with Mary and Edmund in quest of pea sticks & called at father's and one or two other

IN EIGHTEEN TWENTY-SEVEN

places, with my wife & little Thomas. Spent about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour at the cg. house. My throat being yet very sore, I designed remaining in the house in the afternoon, but J. Durfee, Jr., having come after dinner to put up my vane, I was obliged, in order to have it done to my mind, to be out attending to it. It took most of the afternoon and although I endeavoured to guard as much as possible against increasing my cold, my precautions were not successful. Evg. at home.

May 13. Engaged at home in preparing for distribution a number of copies of Dr. Beecher's sermons on intemperance, my sore throat rendering it improper for me to go abroad.

May 14, 15, 16, 17. Confined to my room. My throat much swelled as to make talking very difficult & painful. Dr. Read in attendance; prescriptions; medicine, cataplasms, poultices, steaming, &c. (Here there is considerable technical symptoms of his sore throat which we have deleted.—Ed.) I had a watcher (J. Johnson) during the night. The painful symptoms gradually decreased so that on the 17th, they were about wholly relieved. Mother spent an afternoon with me and she with Sister Sarah were here with me another afternoon. Sister Anna was here once or twice and Charles daily. Andrew and nephew Thomas two or three times, indicating more kindness and sympathy than the occasion called for.

On the morning of the 16th, at 6 o'clk my grandfather William Rotch expired. He had been in a great state of mental and physical exhaustion for several months. For a week or two before his death he took little or nothing except lemonade and water and on the 15th he declined these also. This constitution once so strong & vigorous was entirely overcome by the infirmities of age and his release is only an occasion of congratulation.

Thus has terminated a long life (for he was 93 years 5 months old) marked by a vigor of intellect and energy of character, which gained him a high consideration with his contemporaries, and an integrity and firmness which commanded the respect and esteem of his numerous associates in the scenes of active business or in those more peculiarly appropriate to the exercise of the benevolently social feelings. The inflexible adherence which he always evinced under circumstances of unusual delicacy to the ministry of his religious tenets, marked an erect and noble spirit, and the peculiar and native

urbanity of his character & feelings seemed to make full amends, in his intercourse with individuals of exalted rank or different religious views, for the angular aspect—when contrasted with the current of the world—of the language & manners of the Society of Friends, and won him the cordial esteem & respect of all with whom he was thrown in contact, who were capable of estimating the superior traits of human nature.

Some of the events of his long life brought him in connection with men high in office & of commanding talents in England & France, together with a very numerous class of those not officially distinguished, with whom it is believed he uniformly made and left a strong impression for strength of intellect and moral worth.

The last 35 years of his life have been passed in retirement from the extensive engagements and operations in which he acquired his ample fortune. They have been devoted with characteristic activity to his social duties and the well ordering of numerous appendages of his simple and hospitable establishment, which the village character of this place for the period specified rendered convenient; and to the improvement of his property for the encouragement and advancement of the interests of enterprising industry in the place where his family had settled and which had, as to its commercial importance, been founded by his father.

This character for a long course of years has had a celebrity which has made his unostentatious and prosperous course like a beacon light to direct and encourage the sincerest aspirant after moral worth and the cheering rewards of persevering and honorable industry.

He sleeps in peace and has had a large share of the applause which excites not the spleen of the envious. May his descendants imitate his numerous virtues and some of them leave, if not as bright, as spotless a character in conclusion of a shorter career.

May 18, 1828. 1st day. The weather continuing unfavorable, I did not go out to the funeral of my grandfather. My health better.

May 19. Still at home in consequence of unpleasant weather.

May 20. Passed the day at the cg. house. My Chere H. quite unwell with a cold or her turn of the family epidemic—sore throat and fever. Evg. at home.

May 21. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Evg. at home. My wife much better.

DIARY OF SAMUEL RODMAN

May 22. Spent the day mostly at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Called to see Aunt Mary and Cousin Elizabeth at the late residence of my deceased grandfather. Called also at father's.

May 23. Attended a meeting of the Academy Trustees A. M. Passed the rem. of the day at the cg. house &c. Evg. at home.

May 24. Engaged mostly at the cg. house. P. M. at my house in relation to the secretariship of the Academy. Evg. at home.

May 25. 1st day. Attended meetings. Called at father's and at Charles'. Evg. at home.

May 26. Spent most of the day & evg. at the cg. house. Called at Charles' to see them set off for Boston, which they did. Chs., Sarah, the children & a female attendant in Gray's carriage about 3 o'clk.

May 27. Attended at the Institution for Savings and devoted the day principally to cg. house business. Evg. at home.

May 28. Spent the day principally at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

May 29. Occupied at the cg. house &c. Evg. at home. Sister Eliza and Benj's daughter Eliza drank tea with us.

May 30. Spent the day principally at the counting house. Evg. designed attending to witness the second launch of the Winslow, but she was freed from her blockings about 15 minutes sooner than was expected, and slid beautifully into the water before I reached the yard. Thus has been successfully accomplished an enterprise which had not before been attempted in this place, and an example exhibited which will doubtless be followed. She was secured at the wharf a little before 9 o'clk.

May 31. Engaged through the day at the cg. house &c. Evg. at home.

June 1. 1st day. Attended meetings, dined at father's with a small family party to meet Professor Farrar of Cambridge. He is the favored admirer of my Cousin Eliza Rotch, who with Aunt Mary, were of the company. He appears to be an affable, unaffected man, his scientific reputation well established from his long connection as prof. of mathematics at that celebrated institution. He leaves town tomorrow and probably before many months will lead my cousin to the hymeneal altar.

June 2. Engaged at the cg. house through the day. Met the directors of the B. C. Bank. Evg. at home.

June 3. Except attending at the Institution for Savings, passed the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

June 4. Spent the day at the duties of the cg. house &c. Evg. at home.

June 5. Devoted the day to Counting house duties. Evg. at home. Sister E. spent it with us.

June 6. Occupied through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home.

June 7. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & store. Evg. at father's.

June 8, 1st day. Attended meetings. Rode with Ma Chere H. & the 3 elder children to Bro. Benj's farm, who called here today. Evg. at home.

June 9. Spent the day at the cg. house. Evg. at a meeting at Fairhaven on the occasion of the anniversary of their society for the promotion of Temperance. An excellent sensible address was delivered by their president elect, Stephen Merrihew to a respectable audience. Andrew Robeson accompanied me.

June 10. Engaged through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Called in at the Town Hall several times where the Court of Common Pleas is in session which opened yesterday under the act of the last legislature constituting this a half shire town. Judge Williams presiding.

June 11, 1828. Occupied through the day & Evg. at the cg. house & in relation to the Winslow which is in the progress of coppering for her voyage to the Pacific.

June 12. Engaged at the cg. house &c. through the day. Evg. at home. Potatoes planted at lot.

June 13. Divided my time between the cg. house & wharf. Evg. at home, which M. E. Smith spent with us.

June 14. Occupied at the cg. house &c., except some time at home directing some carpentry jobs. Evg. partly spent at mother's, father being absent at Boston, left home the first of the week.

June 15. 1st day. Attended meetings, called at father's & Andrew's with the children. Evg. at home. Called at J. Rotch's to attend Ma Chere H. home who spent the evg. there.

June 16. Engaged through the day at the cg. house &c. Attended at the Board of Directors of the B. C. Bank. Evg. at home.

June 17. Spent the forenoon at the cg. house &c. Attended at the Institution for Savings and P. M. at the Academy to witness the examination of a couple of classes in Arithmetic & Rhetorick. Evg. at home.

IN EIGHTEEN TWENTY-SEVEN

June 18. Engaged at the cg. house &c through the day. Called at father's & Charles' in the evg. The latter and family returned from their Boston visit today. Father yet absent. (He arrived about 9 this evg.).

June 19. Engaged through the day & evg. at the cg. house &c., &c.

June 20. Forenoon and evg. at the cg. house. Afternoon attended to the duty of Town Comm'ee on Accounts.

June 21. Engaged at the cg. house &c through the day & evening. Ship Charles arrived last night in the outer harbor and came to the wharf this afternoon.

June 22. 1st day. Attended meetings and walked with Ed. & Mary to father's after tea. Evg. at home.

June 23. Occupied at the cg. house through the day. Evg. at home after dark.

June 24. Engaged through the day at the cg. house & whf. &c. Attended at the Institution for Savings. Evg. at home except calling at Cousin Anna Rotch's to attend Ma Chere H. home.

June 25. Spent the day at the cg. house. Dined at father's & drank tea there with Edmund & Mary. Evg. at home.

June 26. Occupied through the day principally at the cg. house &c. Had the company of Lydia Barney & Hannah Macy with Chas. & Sarah with whom they stay, Thos. A. Greene, Mary E. Smith & Sister Eliza to tea.

June 27. Engaged at the cg. house A. M. P. M. at home attending some domestic operations. Evg. at the cg. house.

June 28. Day passed as yesterday. Evg. partly at C. W. Morgan's. B. Lundy & the latter called on me to attend a meeting for the former which was postponed.

June 29. 1st day. Attended meetings, and a meeting by Benj. Lundy at the old Friends Meeting house to give information on the subject of the Abolition of slavery. Notice was given at the different congregations today and the house was well filled. Returned with him to James Arnold's and passed the evening. Sister Sarah passed it with Ma Chere H. and Charles joined us at J. Arnold's. The information communicated by B. Lundy was interesting and appeared to be satisfactory to the audience which was composed of different denominations, the smallest proportion of which were Friends.

June 30. Occupied through the day at the cg. house. Benj. Lundy dined with us. Evg. at the cg. house.

July 1. Spent the day & evg. at my counting house duties.

July 2. Day & evg. devoted to business.

July 3. Occupied through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home and in making a call to Sister Anna's who is unwell. Also called at our former neighbor, B. Lincoln's.

July 4. Attended to business through the day. Evg. at home. This anniversary of the U. S. has been observed with less noise and disturbance than usual.

July 5. Occupied through the day at the cg. house. Called in the evg. with Ma Chere H. to enquire after Sister Anna who has been ill several days and appears threatened with a seated fever.

July 6. 1st day. Attended meetings, and took little Edmund with me in the afternoon—the first time. He behaved well. Called to enquire after Sister Anna who is thought to be a little better. The three children with me in this call. Evg. at home.

July 7. Engaged through the day at the cg. house. Evg. at home. Our friend Isaac Collins arrived in the stage from Boston to visit us.

July 8. Attended to business as much of the day as was consistent with a proper attention to our guest. Attended at the Institution for Savings, and with the Chairman to the examination of the Treasurer's report. Sister Eliza called in the evg.

(The end of volume 4 of the Diary)

EPILOGUE

So we come to the end of this account of the life that was led in New Bedford in the years 1827 and 1828. The diary continues on for some 25 years and then ends suddenly. There has never been offered an explanation to show why Samuel Rodman ended his diary when he did. He kept up his meteorological observations for many years afterward.

This part, which has just been printed for the first time, is not without its high spots. Several questions of family interest have been cleared up and Samuel Rodman's comment on the death of his grandfather William Rotch has been brought out for us to see how much great men were admired and in what fashion, in that day, by other great men.

The part that has bothered the average reader has probably been the numerous entries in which nothing particularly exciting is recounted. If so, feel the way I have

DIARY OF SAMUEL RODMAN

about it and a new interest will be found in them. To me they are much the same as the background which Vermeer painted into his delicately finished pictures. A Vermeer wall is at first glance only a wall, but in close examination there come to the eye, numerous details hitherto unnoticed. Every particle of those walls has a different quality to light and shade or of color. So with Samuel Rodman's seemingly routine entries. Examine them closely; see beyond them by the power of imagination and a whole world of new vistas flashes before the eye. Look beyond the mere phrase "cg. house" and think of the staunch figures that must have passed in and out during a day, bringing home the spoils of the sea and the wealth of the deeps to build a dynasty and a city.

I can see through all those things. I can see that great house on the hill going up a rock at a time, and when it is finished I can see the great gentlemen of the day gathering in its rooms to drink tea and talk of the problems that always confront thinking men.

Always there is life behind the writings. Samuel Rodman's peas and corn go into the ground one Spring, and they are planted again in another different Spring. The flow of life is there. Its flux moves by, a curtain on which a panorama of the past is to be seen. It must have been a very lovely life, with quietude and grandeur, and dignity and work, a life built on the very fundamentals of all life, a good life.

BRADFORD F. SWAN

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The missing section herein presented completes THE DIARY OF SAMUEL RODMAN from 1821 to 1829 which was edited by the late Zephaniah W. Pease and reprinted from The Morning Mercury in 1927 in book of 350 pages by Reynolds Printing the same year.

This book has been out of print for six years — and we are pleased to present now in permanent form the missing diary.



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